

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## TRIBUTE TO SAM SIMMERMAKER

### HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2009*

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the long and distinguished career of one of my heroes in broadcasting, Sam Simmermaker.

For fifty years, Sam Simmermaker has been a fixture on the airwaves of WCSI/WKKG in my hometown of Columbus, Indiana. As the "Voice of High School Sports", Sam has amassed an extraordinary career over the last half century that deserves to be commemorated on the floor of the People's House.

Both graduates of Indiana University in Bloomington, Sam and his beloved wife Fran came to Columbus in December of 1959 for what they thought would be a brief stop on their way to St. Louis. Sam was and still is a diehard Cardinals fan and it was his dream to become the radio voice of that baseball team.

Thankfully, the Simmermakers never left our community in Eastern Indiana and on January 1, 2010, Sam will celebrate fifty years in broadcasting on WCSI.

The list of awards and recognitions that Sam Simmermaker has received is long and distinguished. In 1976 and 1997, Sam was chosen as the National Sportscasters and Sportswriters "Sportscaster of the Year."

He was inducted into the Indiana Sportswriters and Sportscasters Hall of Fame in 1998 and the Indiana Broadcast Association Hall of Fame a decade later.

One of the biggest awards that Sam Simmermaker received was his induction into the Indiana Basketball Hall of Fame. In 2006, he joined the long list of legendary Hoosier basketball players and coaches as a St. Vincent Silver Medal Award winner.

Columbus High School basketball fans know him as the familiar voice of the Bull Dogs who for decades has brought a unique yet consistent style to a game that has evolved tremendously during his decades of service.

Listeners and fans alike can identify Sam by his trademark call—"Holy Cow!"—during his play-by-play call of local high school basketball, football and baseball games.

Aside from his professional role, Sam continues to be an active citizen in the community. He serves as a board member of the Columbus Fire Department's Cheer Fund and is a member of the First Christian Church.

Still an athlete, Sam can still be found playing first base in the Columbus Parks and Recreation Department's Old-Timer Slow Pitch Softball League.

Sam's long career has spanned many games over the last fifty years, but more importantly, it is a testament to his dedication to his community, friends and family.

Sam Simmermaker has become an icon in Columbus, Indiana and across its airwaves. To me, he will forever be a dear friend and mentor.

## HONORING MR. EDGAR H. LANCASTER, JR.

### HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2009*

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of the life and achievements of Edgar H. Lancaster, Jr., who died on October 12, 2009, at the age of 91.

Lancaster was a graduate of Tallulah High School, Louisiana Tech University, and Louisiana State University School of Law. He proudly served his country in the U.S. Army during World War II. Following his discharge, he returned to Louisiana to pursue his law degree, in which he actively practiced from 1948 until the time of his death.

Lancaster served in the Louisiana House of Representatives from 1952 to 1968, where he continued his service to his community and state. In this capacity, he also served as Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee and Speaker Pro Tempore.

Among his impressive list of endeavors, Lancaster also was an organizer of Southern National Bank at Tallulah, where he served on its Board of Directors, in addition to working as the bank's attorney.

For his remarkable life's work, Lancaster received numerous awards and distinctions. In 1986, the Louisiana Bar Foundation named him Attorney of the Year, and he was inducted into the LSU Law School Hall of Fame in 1987. He was appointed by the Louisiana Supreme Court as the 6th Judicial District Judge Pro Tempore from 1992 to 1993, and served on the Louisiana Law Institute for over 50 years, also acting as past president and chairman emeritus of the Institute. Moreover, Lancaster was very involved in the Louisiana State Bar Association, where he served on both the Board of Governors and the Attorney Ethics Commission.

A devoted husband and father, Lancaster is survived by his lovely wife of sixty-five years, Beverly Vedros Lancaster, and their three children. They are also the proud grandparents to three grandsons.

A man of many dimensions, Lancaster was an avid golfer and an unofficial historian in his spare time.

It is my pleasure to honor the late Edgar H. Lancaster, a man who served the people of Madison Parish as well as the state of Louisiana for many years. His commitment, hard work and leadership warrant this laudable recognition.

## HONORING 373RD ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL GUARD

SPEECH OF

### HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 7, 2009*

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of House Resolution 940, a resolution recognizing and honoring the National Guard on the occasion of its 373rd anniversary. The National Guard has a rich and vital history of protecting our Nation, and I am proud to support this resolution honoring them.

I would like to thank Congressman LATTI for authoring this important resolution, and House Majority Leader STENY HOYER and Speaker NANCY PELOSI for their skill and leadership in bringing it to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, since the attacks on September 11, 2001, hundreds of thousands of members of the Army and Air National Guard have been called upon by their States and the Federal Government to provide security at home and combat terrorism abroad. As a conferee on H.R. 2647, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010, I was proud to support the provision of \$200 million to support National Guard and Reserve military construction projects. The men and women of the National Guard make so many sacrifices to keep our Nation and its people safe, and we need to make sure they have the support and funding to perform their duties. This resolution recognizes and honors those sacrifices.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I support this resolution thanking the members of the National Guard for their service and continued support, as well as expressing condolences and gratitude to the families of members of the National Guard who have lost their lives. I am proud to honor and support the compassionate, courageous, and dedicated members of the National Guard who serve a critical role in protecting the United States and its citizens' freedoms and treasured liberties.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H. Res. 940.

## RECOGNIZING THE BLUEWATER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FOR RECEIVING THE BLUE RIBBON AWARD

### HON. HARRY TEAGUE

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2009*

Mr. TEAGUE. Madam Speaker, I want to congratulate Bluewater Elementary School in Bluewater, New Mexico, for receiving the Blue Ribbon School Award awarded by the U.S. Department of Education for demonstrating academic excellence and dramatic gains in student achievement levels.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

The Blue Ribbon Schools award was created in 1982 to recognize schools where students attain and maintain high academic standards and are pushed to improve themselves and further their dedication to scholastic achievement. This award shows that Bluewater Elementary School is serving its students well and helping them make strides forward in their academic careers.

Schools like Bluewater Elementary achieve such great distinctions because of the hard work and dedication of the teachers, staff, and administration. Their students also deserve to be commended for fully taking advantage of all of the opportunities provided to them by their exceptional staff. Bluewater Elementary School is a model for the progress other schools throughout the nation should strive to achieve.

I am honored to have Blue Ribbon Schools like Bluewater Elementary School in my district. I commend their achievement and wish them luck in the continuing their academic achievement.

#### HONORING MIKE NURY

#### HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2009*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Mike Nury upon being honored with the "Lifetime Achievement Award" at the 2009 San Joaquin Winegrowers Association 7th Annual San Joaquin Valley Wine & Grape Industry Forum. The luncheon will be held in Fresno, California on Friday, November 20, 2009.

Mr. Mike Nury came to the United States in November 1945 to attend American International University in Springfield, Massachusetts. In 1946 he was drafted into the United States Army and served during the Korean War. Upon completion of his military career, he arrived in California and attended the University of California, Berkeley. He later transferred to the University of California, Davis where he earned a bachelor of science and master of science degree in food science in 1952. In 1953, Mr. Nury started his career with Vie-Del Company, a Fresno, California based winery, as a research chemist. His role at the winery had a tremendous impact on the company, as well as the industry as a whole. He played a major role in developing an improved method of concentrating grape flavors by adjusting the temperature and time used to concentrate the grapes. The outcomes were significant. The new concentrate had no ethanol, which was important for those unable to metabolize ethanol, thus eliminating ethanol taxes on the original concentrate. It also weighed less, reducing shipping costs, and the new concentrate made it possible to add wine flavor to more products.

In 1972, Mr. Nury was named President of the Vie-Del, and in 1990 the Nury family purchased the controlling interest in Vie-Del from Joseph E. Seagram & Sons. Since then, the company has continued to grow, producing millions of gallons of concentrate per year. Mr. Nury has served as president and owner, and after his semi-retirement, he served as chairman of the board. His family has also taken an interest in the wine industry. Two of his

three daughters, Dianne and Roxanne, have spent many years with the company and his brother, Fred, taught Enology at California State University, Fresno and later worked for Seagram in the Bay Area. Mr. Nury is only one of three winemakers to have served as president of the Wine Institute and the American Society of Enology and Viticulture. He has also played an active role with the Fresno Rotary for over thirty-five years, served as a member of the Fresno Community Hospital Foundation Board and Chairman of the Finance Committee.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Mike Nury upon being honored with the "Lifetime Achievement Award." I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Nury many years of continued success.

#### OPPOSITION TO THE STUPAK AMENDMENT

#### HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2009*

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, I have witnessed the horror of the choice between a back alley abortion and a forced marriage to avoid disgrace. These were the realities women faced prior to 1973. My fear is that if this harmful Stupak/Pitts language is signed into law, we will revert back to those dark times.

Until now, for over 30 years we lived in this House in peaceful coexistence, the pros and the cons getting together on the fact that the Hyde amendment said no federal money can be spent. We on our side simply had the law.

Critical to this debate is to break down the facts. The opposition claims that the Stupak/Pitts Amendment codifies current law. This is grossly incorrect.

Stupak-Pitts goes far beyond current law by placing unprecedented restrictions on individuals' use of their own private dollars. The Hyde Amendment does not apply to private funding nor does it apply to administrative costs. It has only placed limits on direct federal appropriations being used to fund abortion benefits. The Stupak Amendment expands the Hyde prohibitions on the use of Federal funds for an abortion benefit to include "any part of the costs of any health plan that includes coverage of abortion."

The Hyde Amendment does not include similar, far-reaching language. Seventeen States currently provide abortion coverage in Medicaid with separate State funding.

The opposition claims that this amendment will not change current insurance plans for women. This is blatantly wrong.

A report by health policy experts at the George Washington University School of Public Health concludes that the Stupak Amendment "will have an industry-wide effect, eliminating coverage of medically indicated abortions over time for all women, not only those whose coverage is derived through a health insurance exchange."

The opposition claims that the segregation of funding under the House bill is an accounting sham. This is blatantly false.

In the Capps Amendment, the segregation of funding piece is based on the current model the Federal Government uses to pay for abor-

tions currently permitted in Medicaid. States are permitted to use their own funding to provide additional abortion coverage under Medicaid.

For me, and for many of my colleagues, it means 30 or 40 years of our life is being cancelled out with this amendment.

I am afraid that we are driving young women, poor women, all women of child-bearing age back to the back alley, and I dread to see that day.

COMMENDING RAPIDES PARISH  
SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT,  
GARY JONES

#### HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2009*

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam Speaker, I rise today with pride to commend Rapides Parish School District Superintendent, Gary Jones, for his contributions to local education, specifically his plans to launch Aiken cyberacademy this spring, which will revolutionize learning options available to our students.

This virtual academy is modeled similarly to an online charter school in that it will be interactive and self-paced. Since students will be registered in the district system, Aiken will differ from online charter schools since students will be able to take other courses, as well as join extracurricular activities by attending a regular school.

As our nation's educators continue to look for ways to improve and strengthen education in our country, I believe this is an innovative alternative for students who have not thrived in the traditional classroom. In addition, this plan will provide more choices for home-schooled children.

To keep our communities on the cutting edge of educational advancements, I am proud of Gary Jones for ensuring such a creative option is available to help prepare our students. Please join me in honoring him for his work on behalf of our young students.

#### PROTECT REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS IN HEALTH CARE REFORM

#### HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2009*

Ms. DeGETTE. Madam Speaker, we came to work this year to deliver affordable, high-quality health care to all Americans. Instead of offering the possibility of health care to all Americans, some want to deny essential health care—reproductive health care—to women.

For politicians to intrude on a woman or couple's most personal and painful decisions is cynical and wrong. Nobody in America has the right to use government to impose their religious beliefs on someone else. Yet the Stupak-Pitts amendment would do just that.

The Stupak-Pitts amendment adopted by this House does not—does not—preserve the status quo on abortion. The Stupak-Pitts amendment tells millions of middle-class

Americans that they cannot use their own money to purchase private health insurance to cover legal medical procedures. This is an unprecedented and dramatic departure from current law.

Not long ago, Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg observed that reproductive rights “center on a woman’s autonomy to determine her life’s course.” Trading away those rights for limited access to health care is a devil’s bargain that we will not make.

I urge my colleagues to act—to support women’s access to a full range of reproductive health services, and to bring health care to all Americans.

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HONORING JOSEPH TORCHIA

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2009*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Joseph Torchia, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 351, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Joseph has been very active with his troop participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Joseph has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Joseph Torchia for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

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CONGRATULATING PRESIDENT  
AND MRS. GORDON MOULTON ON  
THE OCCASION OF THE NAMING  
OF THE USA BELL TOWER IN  
THEIR HONOR

**HON. JO BONNER**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2009*

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to offer congratulations to University of South Alabama President Gordon Moulton and his wife, Geri, whose efforts in support of the University are being permanently heralded by the naming of the new campus bell tower in their honor.

On September 18, 2009, the University of South Alabama Board of Trustees officially announced that the school’s new bell tower will be dedicated “in honor of ‘the exceptional service’ of President Gordon Moulton and his wife, Geri.”

When the 135-foot structure is completed in December, it will be the “premier landmark and the enduring symbol of spirit of the University of South Alabama,” the board said. The impressive tower with four large bronze bells will also serve as a monument honoring alumni who are providing support for the project.

Madam Speaker, Gordon and Geri are deserving of such a lasting recognition. President Moulton has not only been the helmsman of the University since 1998—overseeing milestones in student enrollment and graduation, enhancement of campus life, and greater involvement of faculty and students in the community—he has also had a direct role in the establishment of the Mitchell Cancer Institute.

The University of South Alabama has also seen the benefit of his support of the University’s Technology and Research Park and the Children’s and Women’s Hospital, to name a few.

President and Mrs. Moulton are well known for their advocacy of local causes important to the community. Geri was also honored in 2009 with the dedication of the Geri Moulton Children’s Park.

I wish to extend my congratulations and appreciation to both President and Mrs. Moulton and look forward to their continued beneficial leadership of the University of South Alabama.

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MAKE NO COMMITMENTS AT  
COPENHAGEN

**HON. ED WHITFIELD**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2009*

Mr. WHITFIELD. Madam Speaker, I rise today in response to President Obama’s expected commitment to the world at the Copenhagen climate change discussion for the United States to reduce carbon emissions by 17 percent by 2020.

It is simply ludicrous to think that we can reduce carbon emissions by 17 percent by 2020 without wrecking our economy. I am also concerned about the Administration’s so-called endangerment finding to regulate carbon emissions under the Clean Air Act. This is a disastrous move forward to regulate carbon under a law that was clearly not intended to regulate carbon emissions. In many cases, it is not required under this law to take into consideration the impact on the economy, which poses enormous problems. Going further on the science of climate change, in light of the emails that show that scientists have been suppressing information about the scientific proof of climate change, I believe that it is even more important that we take a step back and ensure that we understand the impact of carbon emissions.

The trick that scientists have been using to make the data work has been reported as being called, “trick and hide.” It seems, Madam Speaker, that not only are the scientists “tricking and hiding” the American people on the science of climate changes, but the Democratic Majority is “tricking and hiding” the truth about the cap and trade bill. The truth about the cap and trade bill is that this bill will increase electricity rates in some states, like Kentucky, as much as 40 percent. Additionally, the cap and trade bill is nothing more than a hidden tax on the American people. I might add that I am not against reducing carbon emissions as I have cosponsored and helped move the Carbon Capture and Sequestration legislation that was sponsored by Congressman BOUCHER and others.

It is important that we develop this technology before enacting any regulatory regime to dramatically reduce carbon emissions. These efforts are essential in keeping electricity rates low. However, I am against the President making a commitment that we cannot meet and that China and India will not match. I am also against the Administration’s movement to regulate carbon through the Clean Air Act.

We must take a step back and study the science on this issue to make certain we get this right and I call on the Administration to do just that. I call on my colleagues to speak up about negative impacts of the “trick and hide” bill and urge the Administration not to make any commitments at Copenhagen.

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HONORING VFW POST 8946 IN  
WOODCLIFF LAKE, NEW JERSEY

**HON. SCOTT GARRETT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2009*

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor the work of VFW Post 8946 in Woodcliff Lake, New Jersey for their selfless and inspiring deeds towards their fellow citizens. For the past few years this group of extraordinary individuals has been traveling to the Walter Reed Medical Center in Washington DC as well as the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland. During their trips the members of the Post have spent time with wounded veterans and their families. They have brought items such as clothing, CD players, electric shavers and even a large TV for the Recreation Room.

After one of their more recent visits to Walter Reed Medical Center in Washington, William Huston, a member of the Post, told a local reporter that, “these young men have a remarkable attitude, we cannot properly express the admiration we have for them.” It is this sense of genuine commitment towards helping those who have given so much to our nation that makes this Post unique in many ways.

As I reflect on the deeds they have done I cannot help but be reminded of the enduring words from President Abraham Lincoln’s second inaugural address. Lincoln challenged his fellow Americans to “care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan, to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves and with all nations.” The men of this Post are a living testament to these words.

I want to once again thank this group of exceptional men for their service towards their fellow citizens. I am proud to represent such a fine group of people in the United States House of Representatives and I would like to recognize individually: William Huston, Gerard DeCicco, Joseph M. Poggi, Faust Faustini, Ray Johns, Peter Mauro, James Horris, Edward Powers, Sergei Leoniuk, Edward Halvey, George Kritzer, Fredrick Singer, and Robery Schmitt.

RECOGNIZING MORRILL WORCESTER FOR HIS WORK IN HONORING OUR NATION'S FALLEN

**HON. DUNCAN HUNTER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2009*

Mr. HUNTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise in recognition of Mr. Morrill Worcester of Harrington, Maine. Morrill is President of the Worcester Wreath Company, and he and his company have provided Christmas wreaths for Arlington National Cemetery since 1992.

Morrill Worcester's story begins in 1962 when at the age of 12 he won a trip to Washington, DC, from his local paper. After visiting Arlington National Cemetery, he was awestruck by the enormity of the cemetery and its perfectly aligned rows of headstones representing the thousands who have died in service to this country. The powerful imagery of Arlington left a lasting impression on Morrill, one that would stay with him long after he began his business selling Christmas wreaths.

In 1992, the Worcester Wreath Company had an overstock of Christmas wreaths. Unwilling to simply throw the extra wreaths away, and with the image of Arlington still a treasured memory, Morrill was inspired. With the help of volunteers, he spent 6 hours in the rain placing a wreath at each headstone. For 18 years, Morrill has taken time out of his busiest season to deliver handmade wreaths to Arlington National Cemetery and lead volunteers in laying them on the headstones.

When word of his efforts spread around the Internet, hundreds more Americans from across the country began to ask how they could get involved and show their respect for our fallen. Morrill soon expanded the project into Wreaths Across America, allowing anyone to donate a wreath to honor the fallen. As a result, Wreaths Across America have laid over 100,000 wreaths at numerous national cemeteries. Congress has recognized his work by declaring December 13, 2008 as "Wreaths Across America Day."

Madam Speaker, this gentleman's dedication and actions directly reflect his selfless resolve to honor and remember our Nation's fallen. Individuals like Morrill and the volunteers of Wreaths Across America embody the great respect that we as a nation have for those who have died defending our freedom. On the second Saturday of December this year, and hopefully for many more Decembers to come, Morrill will be at Arlington National Cemetery in solemn remembrance to lay more wreaths.

Mr. Morrill Worcester, thank you for remembering those who have given so much for our freedom, and thank you for sharing your passion to honor these brave men and women with the American people.

HONORING NORWICH UNIVERSITY AND ITS INAUGURAL DAY OF SERVICE

**HON. PETER WELCH**

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2009*

Mr. WELCH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge Norwich University and its inaugural Day of Service.

Located in the foothills of the Green Mountains in Northfield, Vermont, Norwich University is the oldest private military college in the Nation. The university's founder, Captain Alden Partridge, believed in the importance of service and experiential learning. On November 7, 2009, over 150 alumni, undergraduate and graduate students, staff, and friends of Norwich University exemplified these principles by joining together in the university's inaugural Day of Service. The date was chosen specifically to coincide with Veterans Day, with most of the volunteer opportunities focused on supporting our Nation's veterans and active duty military.

Here in the DC area, dozens of alumni and friends volunteered at Walter Reed Army Medical Center's Fisher Houses, which are non-profit homes where family members of injured soldiers can stay while their soldier recuperates from injury. Meanwhile, in Philadelphia, Norwich alumni visited with veterans at the local Veterans' Community Living Center and sponsored an afternoon of pizza and bingo. Norwich community volunteers in Massachusetts, New York, and Florida collected hundreds of toys and books to be distributed through the Armed Forces Foundation and Operation Paperback. Elsewhere around the country volunteers assembled care packages that will be sent to Norwich University alumni currently serving in Iraq. In North Carolina, alumni rallied to support Wakefield High School's anti-drunk driving efforts, and in San Antonio over 20 alumni and friends spent the morning volunteering in the fruit and vegetable gardens of the San Antonio Food Bank. In my home State of Vermont, over 50 students and alumni helped with local river cleanup, volunteered at the Vermont Food Bank and Habitat for Humanity, and provided logistical support for the White River Junction Mobile Vet Center.

At a time when so many of the men and women of our armed forces are serving around the globe, the Norwich Day of Service is a praiseworthy example of how those of us at home can volunteer our time to thank our servicemembers and veterans for their sacrifice.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF HUGH S. BRANYON UPON HIS RETIREMENT

**HON. JO BONNER**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2009*

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the exemplary public service of Mr. Hugh S. Branyon who is retiring on December 11, 2009, after 35 years as superintendent of Gulf State Park on Alabama's Gulf Coast.

A native of Fayette in northwest Alabama, Mr. Branyon first came to Baldwin County in 1957 to work at Gulf State Park. His experience along the gulf sparked such a love of the outdoors that he devoted not only his career, but indeed, his life to the service of Alabama's state parks.

Mr. Branyon's labors have spanned a half century and the length of Alabama. After his first job at Gulf State Park, Mr. Branyon traveled upstate to Lake Guntersville State Park, where he rose to acting manager. Over the

ensuing years, he traversed the state, heading back for a brief stint at Gulf State Park before being appointed ranger at Auburn's Chewacla State Park. In 1967, he was called to the State capital to become Chief of Operation in Maintenance to all Alabama state parks and fishing lakes. In 1972, Mr. Branyon returned to Baldwin County where he eventually became Superintendent of Gulf State Park and has since served continuously.

Mr. Branyon has always preferred to call his job a way of life. It was his dedication to the mission of preserving our outdoors that led Mr. Branyon to also assume the role of Southwest District Superintendent over five other south Alabama parks: Bladon Springs, Frank Jackson, Chickasaw, Florala and Meaher.

He has shepherded Gulf State Park through 13 named tropical storms and hurricanes. He oversaw the original construction of Gulf State Park's much-used fishing pier in 1967 and its reconstruction, nearly doubling its length. Under his supervision, Gulf State Park has steadily grown to become one of Alabama's most popular state parks.

No stranger to volunteer service in his community and across the state, he has also been active in many local civic clubs and organizations. His selfless service has led to his receipt of the highest awards from Rotary and Lions clubs international.

Mr. Branyon has been more than a park superintendent, but rather a friend, to so many of his employees and those who crossed his path over the decades in Alabama's parks. His devotion to preserving the treasures of Alabama's outdoors will be hard to match. All those who have enjoyed the beauty and splendor of our pristine parks owe Hugh Branyon a debt of thanks.

Mr. Branyon and his wife, Carol Wenzel Branyon, have two daughters and five grandchildren. Upon retirement, Mr. Branyon plans to devote even more time to his beloved outdoors, including fishing with his grandchildren.

I join thousands of Alabamians in wishing Hugh Branyon the best as he enters his well-deserved retirement.

TRIBUTE TO BROTHER BOB BEVINGTON

**HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2009*

Mr. DUNCAN. Madam Speaker, today I wish to pay tribute to a beloved pastor from my District who was one of the most tireless servants of the Lord I have ever known.

I knew Rev. Bob Bevington—affectionately called Brother Bob by all—from the time I was a small boy. He was the advisor to the Christian Student Organization when I was in High School, and I had tremendous admiration and respect for him.

Most especially, I admired his unwavering faith during the passing of both of his sons. The pain of losing two children is unimaginable, but Brother Bob relied on his creator during those dark days and showed us all that God can help us even through terrible and tragic times.

Brother Bob's impact on my District is incalculable. He started the Knoxville Baptist Tabernacle Church in 1951, and his calling to

preach the Word had no limits. The Church continued to grow, and in 1971 Brother Bob launched the Knoxville Baptist Christian School, which is still going strong today.

Knowing that there were more people who needed to hear his message than his pews could hold, Brother Bob also published many newsletters and newspaper columns and launched a radio ministry called the Revival of the Air in 1948. Broadcasts continued right up until his passing.

While eulogizing Brother Bob, the current Pastor of Knoxville Baptist Tabernacle Church, Brother Tony Greene, spoke of Brother Bob's legacy, saying "From this church have gone hundreds of soul winners, preachers, and missionaries. At this church have preached the mighty voices of the 20th century."

He continued, "Just hours before his Homegoing, the Lord allowed Brother Bob the strength to do one final radio broadcast. What a testimony of faithfulness to the end! A life well-lived, to the finish. 'Well done, thou good and faithful servant.'"

In a recent tribute to Brother Bob, a commentator in the Knoxville News Sentinel appropriately wrote, "Maybe the words 'good and decent' don't tell the whole story. Brother Bob, you were one exceptional man."

Madam Speaker, the passing of Brother Bob Bevington is a tremendous loss for my District, his wife Mary Lou, daughter and son-in-law Marilyn and Bob Russell, his grandchildren and great-grandchildren, many other family and friends and the thousands of people devoted to his message of loving the Lord. I want to call his service and faith in God to the attention of my Colleagues and other readers of the RECORD and thank him for showing us all the way to a better life.

#### HONORING BOB MCINTURF

#### HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Bob McInturf upon being honored with the "Lifetime Achievement Award" at the 2009 San Joaquin Winegrowers Association 7th Annual San Joaquin Valley Wine & Grape Industry Forum. The luncheon will be held in Fresno, California on Friday, November 20, 2009.

Mr. Bob McInturf began farming in Madera and Fresno counties in 1946. For approximately fifty years he has been an integral member of the farming community; promoting farmers and small business owners, and working closely with vineyards around the San Joaquin Valley. Mr. McInturf was one of the original incorporators of Allied Grape Growers and served as President from 1956 through 1987. He has also served on the board of directors for Sun Maid Raisin Growers, the Agricultural Council of California, the National Council of Farm Cooperatives, the California Association of Winegrape Growers and the San Joaquin Valley Winegrowers Association. Mr. McInturf is the past chairman of the Agricultural Advisory Committee for the University of California.

Mr. McInturf has worked on many boards and committees representing the grape and agricultural industry on the local, state, national and international arenas. For many

years he was involved with the marketing order of grapes for crushing and served as chairman of the Specialty Crop Committee for Trade Negotiations with the European Community Market.

Mr. McInturf and his wife, Rosalie, had lived in Fresno most of their lives. After Mr. McInturf retired they moved to Roseville, California. They have two children, Cindy and Stan. Mr. McInturf has been involved with his church and many church activities throughout his life.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Bob McInturf upon being honored with the "Lifetime Achievement Award." I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. McInturf many years of continued success.

#### TRIBUTE TO FORMER ALABAMA STATE SENATOR PIERRE PELHAM

#### HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, last week, Alabama lost one of its luminaries—a gifted public servant who will be remembered not only for his articulate and persuasive oratory, but also for his many contributions to our region.

Former State Senator Pierre Pelham of Mobile passed away on December 3, 2009, at the age of 80.

A native of Chatom, Alabama, Pierre Pelham was a scholar, a patriot, and an astute and skilled politician who was admired by many.

Senator Pelham distinguished himself early in life as a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the University of Alabama and went on to graduate cum laude from Harvard University Law School.

He served his country during the Korean War, rising to the rank of Lieutenant in the Army. During his military service, he earned the Combat Infantryman and the Expert Infantryman badges.

Back home in Alabama, he developed a passion for public service. He was a delegate to the Democratic National Conventions in 1960 and 1964, laying the groundwork for later public office. From 1966 to 1974, he represented Mobile in the Alabama State Senate. He attained the position of president pro tempore of the Alabama Senate while only in his second term.

During his political career, Senator Pelham is credited with helping to establish the College of Medicine at the University of South Alabama in Mobile. Today, the USA College of Medicine plays a leading role in education and research to save the lives of thousands of Alabamians and others along the Gulf Coast.

A Fellow of Harvard University's Kennedy Institute of Politics, Senator Pelham was widely known for his command of the political craft and the spoken word. He was formidable in his ability to persuade his colleagues during debate.

Senator Pelham was also known for his deep, abiding faith and his lifelong membership and support of the Chatom United Methodist Church.

I rise to extend my condolences to his wife, Eva, and four children, Joseph, Marc, Pier, and Patrice Pelham, and 12 grandchildren.

May his family know that they are in our thoughts and prayers at this difficult time.

#### IN OPPOSITION TO THE STUPAK AMENDMENT

#### HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Speaker, I rise to join my colleagues in opposition to further restrictions on the constitutionally guaranteed right to abortion.

Last night the other body wisely defeated an amendment mirrored on the Stupak language that would have gone far and away beyond the current Hyde Amendment restrictions on abortion law.

That amendment, like the Stupak amendment we adopted in the House represented a blatant attack on women.

It attempts to dictate how individual Americans can spend their own money. That is simply outrageous.

The federal government has no place inserting itself between the medical decisions that a woman makes with her doctor.

This is a democracy, not a theocracy. The religious views of some should not dictate public policy for all.

We've got to follow the Senate's lead and strip the Stupak language from the final health reform bill and ensure that woman can exercise their right to seek an abortion.

We cannot and should not compromise away the rights of women to win votes.

We have already compromised far too much.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF ROBERT K. MCCLEARY

#### HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, Representatives GEORGE MILLER, Representative JERRY MCNEARNEY and I rise today in honor of Robert McCleary, who has served as the Executive Director for the Contra Costa Transportation Authority for the last 20 years. As his colleagues, friends and family gather together to celebrate the next chapter of his life, we ask all of our colleagues to join us in saluting this outstanding public servant.

Bob McCleary's visionary efforts and hard work have benefited this generation and will benefit many more generations in the years to come. Transportation projects such as the BART extension to Pittsburg/BayPoint, the widening of Routes 4, 242 and 680, the Richmond Parkway, the intermodal stations at Richmond and Martinez, along with numerous other local transportation improvements have all been constructed under Bob McCleary's stay at the Contra Costa Transportation Authority and serve as a true testament to his judicious hard work and dedication.

Bob McCleary was faced with the daunting task of implementing Contra Costa's first transportation sales tax—Measure C—passed by the voters in 1988. Bob McCleary has

worked diligently to ensure that the transportation sales tax program has been executed in an efficient, effective and equitable manner, consistent with the voters' intent. He recently played an integral role in establishing the necessary consensus building efforts leading to the successful passage in 2004, of Measure J—the successor transportation sales tax to Measure C. His legacy will live on in this Measure and in a series of transportation projects that are instrumental and essential to the communities they serve.

Prior to serving as the executive director for the Contra Costa Transportation Authority, Bob McCleary was also involved in other regional programs such as the Santa Clara County Traffic Authority where he served as the Deputy Director for Project Management. During Bob's stay at the Santa Clara County Traffic Authority he helped establish the new authority and manage the day to day project implementation of a \$1 billion dollar local sales tax program. This program would fund three State highways, the first of its kind in California and relied heavily on a partnership with Caltrans, local government, and the private sector for success. Bob McCleary made sure it became a success.

Madam Speaker, we are truly honored to pay tribute to our friend and dedicated public servant. We ask all of our colleagues to join with us in thanking Robert McCleary for his long and dedicated service to the citizens of California and wishing him continued success and happiness in all of his future endeavors along with a happy retirement.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. JOHN BARROW

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2009*

Mr. BARROW. Madam Speaker, due to the death of a family member, I was absent from the House for the week of November 30 and thus not recorded for any votes that week. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following way on bills considered by the House:

On rollcall vote No. 911, on H.R. 3029, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 912, on H.R. 727, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 913, on H.R. 3667, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 914, on H. Res. 494, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 915, on H. Con. Res. 129, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 916, on H. Res. 861, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 917, on H. Res. 897, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 918, on H.R. 3634, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 919, on H.R. 515, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 920, on H. Con. Res. 197, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 921, on H.R. 1242, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 922, on H.R. 3980, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 923, on the Motion on Ordering the Previous Question on the Rule for H.R. 4154, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 924, on H. Res. 941, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 925, on approving the Journal, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 926, on H. Res. 28, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 927, on the Motion to Table the Appeal of the Ruling of the Chair, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 928, on the Motion to Recommit H.R. 4154, I would have voted "nay";

On rollcall vote No. 929, on H.R. 4154, I would have voted "yea";

On rollcall vote No. 930, on H.R. 3570, I would have voted "yea".

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2009*

Mr. GONZALEZ. Madam Speaker, a personal matter prevented my presence in the House this past Thursday, December 03, 2009. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on final passage of the Permanent Estate Tax Relief for Families, Farmers, and Small Businesses Act of 2009 (H.R. 4154).

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2009*

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, on Tuesday, December 8, 2009, I was unable to be present for recorded votes because I was attending the memorial service held in Tacoma, Washington for the four police officers of the Lakewood Police Department who were killed last week in the line of duty.

Had I been present, I would have voted: "yes" on rollcall vote No. 931 (on the motion to instruct conferees on H.R. 3288); "yes" on rollcall vote No. 932 (on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Con. Res. 199, as amended); "yes" on rollcall vote No. 933 (on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Con. Res. 206, as amended); "yes" on rollcall vote No. 934 (on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 940); "yes" on rollcall vote No. 935 (on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 845, as amended); "yes" on rollcall vote No. 936 (on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 2278, as amended); "yes" on rollcall vote No. 937 (on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 915); "yes" on rollcall vote No. 938 (on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 907).

HONORING WORLD WAR II VETERAN MAURICE GLENN BELL, SURVIVOR OF THE USS "INDIANAPOLIS"

### HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2009*

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of World War II veteran

Maurice Glenn Bell of Mobile, Alabama, who passed away on December 4, 2009, at the age of 84.

Mr. Bell proudly embodied the qualities that our nation has associated with the "Greatest Generation"—those Americans who were called to give everything for the defense of our freedom and the liberation of millions overseas. Mr. Bell was absolutely committed to serving his country in wartime, and after the war, he was a role model of character and courage in civilian life.

In 1943, when he was summoned to serve in the Second World War, Mr. Bell was already working as an electrician's helper in the Mobile shipyards. He joined the Navy and saw engagements in places we know well from our history books—including the allied invasions of Tarawa, Saipan, and the battle of the Philippine Sea.

But the World War II experience for which Mr. Bell is best remembered is uniquely linked to the vessel upon which he served—the historic USS *Indianapolis*. It was the *Indianapolis* that delivered the first atomic bomb to be dropped on Japan. And after the heavy cruiser was struck by two Japanese torpedoes in the middle of the night on July 30, 1945, Mr. Bell was among the 900 crew members who were able to get into the water in an attempt to save themselves.

Mr. Bell and his comrades spent four days in the unforgiving ocean awaiting rescue—an ordeal that subjected them to near constant shark attack and dehydration. Of the 1,196 men on board the *Indianapolis* before she went down, only 316 survived—including Maurice Bell.

Like many *Indianapolis* veterans, he had remained mostly silent about his experiences on those four fateful days in 1945. However, 62 years later, he was given a chance to tell his story before a national audience as part of the PBS World War II documentary, "The War." The Ken Burns film interviewed a number of Mobile area veterans, including Mr. Bell.

Mr. Bell also captivated local audiences who would hear his stories about those long days and nights adrift in a seemingly dark and bottomless sea. He urged them never to give up.

It is ironic that this veteran of the war in the Pacific was buried on December 7, 2009—the 68th anniversary of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

Alabama is fortunate to have so many veterans like Maurice Bell who love their country and answered its call in time of need. We will always owe them a deep debt of gratitude.

I join this House in offering condolences to his wonderful wife of 65 years, Lois Bell, and their three children, Beverly Gros, Bonnie Hall and David Bell, and six grandchildren and 24 great grandchildren.

May they be comforted in knowing that they remain in our prayers during their time of loss.

RECOGNIZING ARIZONA'S GIFT OF THE 2009 CAPITOL CHRISTMAS TREE

### HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2009*

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the State of Arizona's

gift to the U.S. Capitol and to the American people. The Capitol Christmas Tree has been a tradition at the United States Capitol since 1964. This is the first time that Arizona has gifted the Capitol Christmas tree, and it is also the tallest ever.

On December 8th, 2009, this majestic 85-foot Blue spruce, originally harvested from the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests in Eastern Arizona, was unveiled on the west lawn of the United States Capitol. The Capitol Christmas Tree, also known as "The People's Tree," is decorated with more than 6,000 holiday ornaments made by Arizona's school children. These ornaments were made from recycled materials and were made specially to survive the winter elements of this colder Washington climate.

The tree's journey to the United States Capitol began when it was cut down on November 7th, and embarked on a 10-day tour of Arizona, during which the tree stopped in 28 of our communities. The tree eventually travelled over 4,600 miles before arriving at its final destination in Washington, D.C., but before arriving, it stopped at cities across the nation so that thousands of Americans could marvel at the seven-story, 9,000-pound spruce. Moving such a large tree for so great a distance was a challenge, and was successful due to the efforts of Harry Baker and his crew from Southwest Industrial Rigging.

Madam Speaker, please join me in thanking the U.S. Forest Service, and especially the employees of the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests, for their devotion to this wonderful project. These employees gave up their Thanksgiving holiday with their families to assist with the transportation of the tree to Washington, D.C. I would especially like to thank Rick Davalos, the District Manager of the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forests, and Jim Payne, the Forest Service's Public Affairs Officer, who headed up this extensive project. And lastly, I would like to commend the Steering Committee of the Capitol Christmas Tree 2009 Project, and the project's many volunteers, for their time and hard work.

#### TRIBUTE TO TERESEANN LYNCH

#### HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I would like to take a moment to remember a woman from Iowa who personified the courage and spirit of a working mother and Member of the United States Military. TereseAnn Lynch was killed on November 11, 2009, due to an act of domestic violence. TereseAnn, 30, was a mother of an 8-month-old son. As a member of the Iowa Air National Guard for more than a decade, she served tours of duty in Iraq, Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia working as a weapons specialist. Most recently, TereseAnn served her country with honor providing aid in the Iraq War as a technical sergeant. She was also an active and committed employee at the Department of Human Services in Iowa where she provided help to young children and mothers trying to recover lost child support payments.

On behalf of my family, and the United States Congress, I would like to extend my condolences to her family, friends, and loved

ones. TereseAnn embodied the character and values of a servicewoman and loving mother.

A tragedy like this is a painful reminder of the frequency of domestic violence cases. Domestic violence is a willful act of abuse that results in many reactions such as fear, anger, depression, and even death. In the U.S., an estimated 1.3 million women are victims of physical assault by an intimate partner each year. In Iowa over the past decade, domestic violence has affected nearly 6,000 women annually and 1,200 men. Structured to fight the battle against domestic violence, the Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence (ICADV) is an organization established to reach out and help Iowans with domestic violence issues. With 28 direct service programs across the state, the coalition offers counseling and community outreach. The ICADV institutes a 24-hour statewide hotline for those needing help. The phone number is 1-800-942-0333.

Domestic violence is a horrific act that no one should have to deal with, and it is my hope that the resources and help available will offer guidance and aid to those affected.

#### EARMARK DECLARATION

#### HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

Mr. ADERHOLT. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of HR 3288, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, Fiscal Year 2010:

Requesting Member: ADERHOLT

Bill Number: HR 3288

Account: DOJ, COPS Tech

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Hartselle, AL

Address of Requesting Entity: 200 Sparkman St. N.W. Hartselle, AL 35640

Description of Request: Wireless Area Network \$250,000

The funding would be used to purchase a Wireless Area Network. This funding will greatly improve the telecommunication access in the area.

The full amount of these funds will be used to purchase equipment.

Requesting Member: ADERHOLT

Bill Number: HR 3288

Account: DOJ, OJP—Byrne

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Alabama Department of Public Safety, Montgomery, AL  
Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 1511, Montgomery, AL 36102-1511

Description of Request: "ADPS Child Sexual Predator Project, \$150,000"

The funding would be used for Project targets arrest and prosecution of Child Sexual Predators in AL. ADPS received 2008 start-up funding from COPS Child Sexual Predator Program. ADPS needs federal assistance to maintain the current level of effective operation. This program continues efforts initiated nationwide under the ADAM WALSH ACT.

These funds will be used for the following areas: \$50,000 equipment; \$10,000 access to background data base repositories to locate absconded sex offenders; \$70,000 salaries and benefits; and \$20,000 enhancement of the department's ability to accept electronically transmitted sex offender information.

Requesting Member: ADERHOLT

Bill Number: HR 3288

Account: DOJ, OJP—Byrne

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL

Address of Requesting Entity: Box 870117, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487

Description of Request: Domestic Violence Law Clinic, \$300,000

The funding would be used to provide free civil legal services to victims of domestic violence, stalking, and assault in the seven west Alabama counties of Bibb, Greene, Hale, Fayette, Pickens, Lamar and Tuscaloosa. The services provided by the DV Law Clinic further the national goal of crime prevention and victim assistance and support the important services set forth in the Violence Against Women Act and other federal laws.

These funds will be used for the following areas: \$219,000 for salaries and benefits; and \$81,000 will be used for facilities and administrative costs associated with the Clinic.

Requesting Member: ADERHOLT

Bill Number: HR 3288

Account: DOJ, OJP—Byrne

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Alabama District Attorneys Association, Montgomery, AL

Address of Requesting Entity: 515 South Perry Street Montgomery, Alabama 36104

Description of Request: Zerometh Drug Prevention Campaign, \$1,000,000

The funding would be used by Zerometh to expose meth and its deadly consequences to teens and young adults. The goal is to stop a potential first-time user from ever trying the drug, while encouraging everyone to look for the warning signs and support treatment. Methamphetamine is a national epidemic and efforts to educate youth on its dangers and hopefully prevent the initial use of meth are needed.

\$30,000 would be used for Program Administration, Project Evaluation, and Compliance, while \$970,000 would be used for a year of demand reduction programs across the State of Alabama.

Requesting Member: ADERHOLT

Bill Number: HR 3288

Account: DOJ, OJP—JJ

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Alabama Institute for Deaf and Blind, Talladega, AL

Address of Requesting Entity: 205 E. South St, P.O. Box 698, Talladega, Alabama 35161

Description of Request: Overcoming Communication Barriers for AIDB At-Risk Youth, \$15,000

The funding would be used to expand a preventive education program for at-risk disabled children impacted by communication barriers, increased incidence of dysfunctional families and a lack of appropriately trained personnel in rural areas and school systems. One in 10 US children is born with a disability, adding emotional and financial stress to families and rural school systems. Disabled teens are more likely to face abuse, pregnancy or suicide due to communication and other barriers, and this funding helps address this.

\$110,000 for program development, \$29,000 for parent education and training, \$11,000 for program materials, supplies and support.

Requesting Member: ADERHOLT

Bill Number: HR 3288

Account or Provision: NASA, Cross Agency Support

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: The University of Alabama in Huntsville



Address of Requesting Entity: 301 Sparkman Avenue, Huntsville, AL 38152

Description of Request: Virtual Environment Simulation Laboratory \$500,000.

The funding would be used for purchasing of equipment which provides UAH a new capability to support Marshall Space Flight Center (MSFC) missions by developing engineering and science applications of virtual environment simulation as well as enhancing student involvement in virtual environments. This would benefit NASA MSFC uses of the facility relevant to MSFC missions, including virtual examination of rocket engines while firing, virtual participation in spacecraft manufacturing and maintenance processes and virtual presence on the surface of the moon.

The full amount of these funds will be used to purchase equipment.

Requesting Member: ADERHOLT

Bill Number: HR 3288

Account: NASA, Cross Agency Support

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Southern Research Institute

Address of Requesting Entity: 757 Tom Martin Drive, Birmingham, AL 35211

Description of Request: Development of characterization techniques for advanced high temperature materials in space launch, \$1,000,000.

The funding of \$1 million for the "Development of Characterization Techniques for Advanced High Temperature Materials in Space Launch Applications" will enable research and developments of advanced modeling, testing and characterization techniques for advanced composite materials in extreme environments. SRI has identified several gaps in current NASA technology that if filled, will greatly assist analysts and designers to successfully utilize composites in advanced structural and thermal protection system applications and reduce overall program risk.

\$350,000 to be spent on equipment and material purchases, \$400,000 to be spent on materials research and analysis, \$200,000 to be spent on testing, and \$50,000 to be spent on program management.

Requesting Member: ADERHOLT

Bill Number: HR 3288

Account or Provision: NASA, Cross Agency Support

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: B.G. Smith & Associates, Inc.

Address of Requesting Entity: 555 Sparkman Drive, Suite 810, Huntsville, AL 35816

Description of Request: Product life-cycle management and advanced modeling and simulation methods, \$1,000,000.

The program seeks to create an integrated and interoperable Product Lifecycle environment as it relates to engineering and manufacturing capabilities and to perform focused critical analyses on flight vehicle performance issues. To move MSFC in the direction leading to modernizing its systems, streamline operations, increase traceability, decrease costs, gain better insight, and increased aerospace manufacturing expertise.

The funding would be used for about 6 full time employees, to purchase some hardware and cost associated with PLM software.

HONORING DR. LAWRENCE B. SCHOOK

### HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the achievements of Dr. Lawrence B. Schook, who recently led an international team in the sequencing of the swine genome. Dr. Schook is a distinguished Guggenheim Professor and Director of the Division of Biomedical Sciences at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign where he has spent the past nine years researching genetic resistance to disease, regenerative medicine, and using genomics to create animal models for biomedical research.

The draft sequence will allow researchers to pinpoint genes that are useful to pork production or are involved in immunity or other important physiological processes in the pig. It will enhance breeding practices, offer insight into diseases that afflict pigs (and, sometimes, also humans) and will assist in efforts to preserve the global heritage of rare, endangered and wild pigs. It also will be important for the study of human health because pigs are very similar to humans in their physiology, behavior and nutritional needs.

With the growth of our world's population and subsequent rise in interaction between both domesticated and wild animals it is imperative that we continue to fund researchers such as Dr. Schook. The recent outbreak of H1N1 is a great reminder that the work of Dr. Schook and his colleagues is of utmost importance, not only to our world's food supply, but to our health as well.

I would ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Dr. Schook, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and all of the team members under Dr. Schook who made this discovery possible.

HONORING SCOTTS BLUFF NATIONAL MONUMENT ON ITS 90TH BIRTHDAY

### HON. ADRIAN SMITH

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join in honoring the Scotts Bluff National Monument—which will be celebrating its 90th anniversary this Saturday.

On December 12th, 1919, President Woodrow Wilson signed a Presidential Proclamation, officially establishing Scotts Bluff National Monument on approximately 2,000 acres.

One of the highest points in Nebraska, Scotts Bluff played an important role in our country's westward expansion. A natural landmark, the formation served as a point of reference for travelers on the Oregon, California, Mormon, and Pony Express Trails.

Today, visitors to the monument can hike the Saddle Rock Trail, see a magnificent view from the summit, visit the Oregon Trail Museum and Visitor Center, and even relive life on the Oregon Trail during special "Living History" programs during the summer. The north face of the monument shows more geological

history than any other formation in Nebraska, spanning a time period extending millions of years.

Having grown up in the shadow of the monument, I know full well just how important this monument has been for our country, for Nebraska, and for the local economy. It is with great pleasure I join with all Nebraskans to celebrate the 90th birthday of such an icon.

RECOGNIZING MR. ROY FOSTER AS A 2009 TOP 10 CNN HERO

### HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a courageous veteran turned social activist, Mr. Roy Foster. Mr. Foster is the founder of Stand Down House, an organization in South Florida that has been providing veterans with life-changing assistance since 2000. His hard work and dedication has earned him the esteemed distinction of 2009 Top 10 CNN Hero. CNN Heroes is an annual awards ceremony that recognizes "everyday people changing the world." Mr. Foster was one of ten CNN Heroes chosen by a blue-ribbon panel of distinguished leaders and humanitarians, including Retired General Colin Powell, Whoopi Goldberg, and Sir Elton John, from an initial pool of more than 9,000 viewer nominations.

Mr. Foster knows all too well how hard it is to find programs that help veterans deal with addiction and homelessness because he used to be one of them. Born in rural Georgia, Mr. Foster joined the Army right after high school. Throughout his six years in the military, he drank alcohol and experimented with drugs. By the time he left the Army in 1980, Mr. Foster was an alcoholic and his drug use had begun to escalate as he struggled to deal with life after the Army. Like many people dealing with addiction, Mr. Foster spent nights sleeping on the streets as he battled his disease for many years.

After starting a life of sobriety in the early 1990s, Mr. Foster used his experiences to become an effective substance abuse counselor. Acknowledging the problems that veterans dealing with substance abuse face, Mr. Foster and another veteran, the late Don Reed, established the non-profit Faith\*Hope\*Love\*Charity, Inc. so that veterans would no longer fall through the cracks of an imperfect system.

After six years of work, Mr. Foster founded Stand Down House to help fellow veterans who are struggling and have lost their homes, dignity, and the ability to lead productive lives. Through referral by the Veterans Administration (VA) and with help from their funding, Stand Down House provides transitional housing and support services to 45 veterans in different stages of recovery. This support includes housing, clothing, counseling, life skills classes for up to two years, and transportation to the VA hospital for medical and mental health care. The goal is to not only assist veterans in their recovery process, but give them the tools to find employment or attend school after their recovery process is over.

At Stand Down House, veterans realize that they are not alone in their struggles after returning home, which allows for veterans of all



ages to become a support system for one another. This often leads to veterans becoming informal counselors to each other and making sure that one another stay on track. Many graduates of the program find the bond of friendship and support so beneficial that they return as volunteers to give back to others in need, especially with many veterans now returning home from Afghanistan and Iraq.

Madam Speaker, I truly admire the work that Mr. Roy Foster has done, and continues to do, for our nation's veterans each and every single day. After serving our country so valiantly, no veteran should ever have to face the future alone.

#### TRIBUTE TO DR. JAMES JOHNSON

### HON. MARY FALLIN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2009*

Ms. FALLIN. Madam Speaker, I am saddened to rise today to note the passing of Dr. James Johnson, an adoring husband, cherished father, and respected physician in my home state of Oklahoma.

A lifelong hemophiliac, Dr. J, as he was known to so many of his patients, dedicated his life to healing others. During his more than 25 years practicing medicine, Dr. J treated thousands of patients, and worked with researchers and insurance companies on finding new ways to treat and hopefully one day cure hemophilia.

Dr. J was particularly fond of reminding students to continually challenge their minds—because while their bodies may someday fail them, they could always count on their knowledge. No one lived this out better than he did. During his months in the hospital, I am told, he would consult on his own case and instruct med students performing basic procedures on him. Always gracious and ever the educator, Dr. J would kindly suggest, “You know, son, if you do it this way, you won’t hurt your patient so much.”

Dr. J owned his own practice for many years, and was most recently medical director for a company that performs house calls for the elderly and homebound. Over the years, he worked as an ER doctor, a prison doctor, and a primary care doctor. When off the job, Dr. J was also a die-hard Sooners fan, a Thunder season-ticket holder, an amateur pilot, and an active member of his local church. But the roles he cherished most were those of husband and father.

Dr. J was laid to rest Monday in Edmond. While we take comfort in knowing that he is at peace, the State of Oklahoma and particularly who know Dr. J grieve this loss. I believe I speak for the whole House when I say our thoughts and prayers go out to Dr. J’s wife of 26 years, Becky, their daughter, Ashley, and the hundreds of family, friends, colleagues, and patients who knew and love him so dearly.

HONORING CORPORAL SYLVESTER WATTS (RETIRED)

### HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2009*

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Madam Speaker, this communication is forwarded on behalf of the constituents of Congressional District Three and myself as we pay tribute to the life of Corporal Sylvester Watts (Retired). We are all saddened that Sylvester is gone, but joyful that he has gone to be with his Heavenly Father.

Sylvester Watts was born October 8, 1947 in Chicago, Illinois to the late Pastor Van B. and Missionary Ruby Watts. He was the youngest of 11 children; his parents, three brothers and one sister, Rufus, Reverend Roosevelt, John and Otha, made their transition from life-mortal ahead of him. He transitioned to await the resurrection on November 29, 2009 at his home in Chicago, Illinois.

Sylvester accepted Christ as his personal Savior at an early age under the pastorate of his father at Greater Progressive Baptist Church, Chicago, Illinois where he served as an usher and a member of the Youth Choir.

Sylvester joined the United States Marine Corps May 1, 1967, was temporarily retired April 16, 1969 and honorably discharged on September 30, 1974. He served his country with dignity and honor and attained the rank of Corporal. During his Military Service, he earned the National Defense Service Medal, Viet Nam Service Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Viet Nam Campaign Medal with device and Marksman Rifle Badge.

Having been reared in a Christian home where the Word of God, the love and support of family were the guiding principles, Sylvester learned early in life that “if a man doesn’t work, he doesn’t eat”, so in spite of the emotional and psychological issues he faced as a result of his tenure in Viet Nam, he was determined to survive.

Sylvester attended Elmhurst College where he majored in Business Administration. He was gainfully employed with Gerber Products Company, Watts Side Grocery (family owned) the Deputy Sheriffs Office, Strategic Services Unit, Daley Center, Chicago, Illinois, Sodexo Marriott, Trajo Enterprises and Rich Cake Enterprises.

Sylvester leaves to cherish precious memories: Missionary Janet Watts-DuPart, Reverend Lucille Watts-Watson, Reverend Van Watts, Jr. (Ruth), Benny Watts, Reverend Frank Watts, Evangelist Shirley Watts Kyles Green; Nephews: Calvin Andre, Van Blair, Vincent, Victor, Vaughn, Joseph Preston, Joseph B., Anthony, Troy, Torrence, Ivyl, Michael, Steven, Anthony; Nieces: Barbette, Janet, Loretta, Christiana, Angie, Janet, Jacqueline, Tina L., Cheryl Lynn, Donna Michelle, Lori Alva, Rubi and Kora; a special nephew, Pastor Alfonso Cleveland and a special friend, Reverend Jeanne L. Edwards, who engaged him in intellectual spiritual conversations at the dinner table whenever family gathered.

We, the Watts family, continue to strive to keep ourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life. He alone is able to keep us from fall-

ing and to present us faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy. Jude v 21&24.

HONORING BEVERLY SCOTT

### HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2009*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Beverly Scott as the outgoing President of the Yosemite Gateway Association of Realtors. Ms. Scott will be recognized at the annual installation luncheon for the Yosemite Gateway Association of Realtors on November 20, 2009 in Oakhurst, California.

The Yosemite Gateway Association of Realtors (YGAOR) first began as the Mountain Co-Op in 1998 with a group of eight volunteers. Today, the group has a paid professional staff and ownership of the Association’s building. YGAOR was responsible for developing one of the first computerized Multiple Listing Systems, which continues to operate today with the latest technology. They work very closely with the California Association of Realtors by providing leadership at both the statewide and regional levels. YGAOR provides educational opportunities for its members, as well as fundraising activities that benefit local non-profit organizations and scholarship programs.

Ms. Beverly Scott is a fifth-generation native of Eastern Madera County. After graduating from Yosemite High School, she attended Bakersfield City College and earned her Bachelor’s degree from California State University, Bakersfield. Ms. Scott has a very diverse history, including service in the United States Army, working as an editor, a photojournalist, a medical instructor, a realtor, a volunteer and a mother to four children: Skyler, Heavenly, Sierra and Raylynn. She is a true entrepreneur; the manager of Oakhurst Real Estate, and the general manager of National Computer Software, Inc.

With Ms. Scott’s role at YGAOR, she has been a strong leader and provided a voice of optimism for local real estate. The 2009 Board Members worked closely with past Board Members to create a new strategic plan and to provide guidelines for defining a strategy, making decisions and allocating YGAOR resources. The new strategic plan brought an updated mission statement: “The Yosemite Gateway Association of Realtors is committed to professional excellence for the success of its members in all aspects of the real estate industry.” With this mission statement in mind, the 2009 Board, with the leadership of Ms. Scott, established four goals: Advocacy, Communication, Education and Organizational Excellence.

Ms. Scott is a leader in the real estate industry, as well as in the Oakhurst community. She has been a member of YGAOR since 2004, and has served on various committees over the past five years. Ms. Scott has been a member of the Board of Trustees for the Bass Lake Joint Union Elementary School District since 2006, serving as Vice President in 2009; the Eastern Madera County/Oakhurst Area Chamber of Commerce since 2001, serving as President in 2004, the Wild Wonderful King Vintage Museum since 2004, serving as an Officer and a Board Member, Local Water and Sewer Committees since 2002 and is a

Charter Member of the New Community United Methodist Church. She is a past-president of the Oakhurst Sierra Sunrise Rotary, past-president of the California State Society of American Medical Technologists, past-board member of the Madera County Workforce Investment Board, past-member of the Boys and Girls Club, and past-Chaplain for the Oakhurst Elks Lodge. For her service to the community, Ms. Scott was the Golden Apple Award Recipient for 2005/2006 and was named "Oakhurst Town Mother" in 2004 by Angels Among Us, Woman of the Year.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Beverly Scott on her achievements. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Ms. Scott and the Yosemite Gateway Association of Realtors many years of continued success.

**RECOGNIZING THE HARRISON VALLEY VIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FOR RECEIVING THE BLUE RIBBON AWARD**

**HON. HARRY TEAGUE**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2009*

Mr. TEAGUE. Madam Speaker, I want to congratulate Valley View Elementary School in Las Cruces, New Mexico, for receiving the Blue Ribbon School Award awarded by the U.S. Department of Education for demonstrating academic excellence and dramatic gains in student achievement levels.

The Blue Ribbon Schools award was created in 1982 to recognize schools where students attain and maintain high academic standards and are pushed to improve themselves and further their dedication to scholastic achievement. This award shows that Valley View Elementary School is working with its students to improving its academic standing and educational excellence.

Schools like Valley View Elementary earn the Blue Ribbon Schools Award because of the hard work and the tireless work of its educators and families. The students also worked hard to improve themselves and make sure that their hard work paid off. Valley View Elementary School exemplifies what it means for a school to help its students strive towards academic excellence.

I am honored to have Blue Ribbon Schools like Valley View Elementary School in my district. I commend their achievement and wish them luck in continuing their academic achievement.

MARIE HARRIS

**HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2009*

Mr. BERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay respects to the passing of my friend Marie Harris. Let this congressional insert serve as a tribute to her memory and celebration of her meaningful life.

Marie Harris came to Pacoima in 1960 from Detroit where she successfully co-owned the Elite Boulevard House of Fashions and cap-

tured the "Formal Award" in a nationwide competition from the National Association of Fashion and Accessory Designers, Inc. Her professional success continued as she transferred her membership with this organization to the Los Angeles Chapter and served as Fashion Coordinator, spearheading the unforgettable Designers Showcase at the Beverly Hilton in 1963 and 1964. She began tireless efforts producing a series of Designers Showcase Fashion Shows to help raise funds to build a new edifice and educational unit of the Parks Chapel AME Church in Pacoima, and continued her work in the fashion world by becoming a columnist for the North East Valley Post writing two columns weekly, "Fashions LTD" and "Kaleidoscope" society scoop.

Marie was known for her spirit of volunteerism and unwavering dedication to public service. In 1980, Marie was appointed to the Mayor's Committee on the city's Bicentennial Celebration in the Sepulveda Basin, which motivated her to produce the Back to Pacoima Expo at the Hansen Dam Amphitheater to honor Pacoima's trailblazers. One of the many results of Marie's work in Pacoima was the naming of "Plaza of the Stars," a major shopping center located at Glenoaks and Van Nuys Boulevards.

Marie has a history of community involvement and her invaluable service has made an indelible mark on the San Fernando Valley. She was on the Board of Directors for the Economic Alliance of the San Fernando Valley Vision 2020 and the Commissioner for the Children's Museum and Commission for the San Fernando Valley Fair. She was aptly recognized as Woman of the Year by Assemblyman Richard Katz, and later appointed as an Honorary Mayor of Pacoima by former City of Los Angeles Councilman Ernani Bernardi.

Marie was a devoted mother, and wife for the past fifty years to Alvin Harris, deceased in January 2001. She is survived by her three children Sidney Alvin, Rolene Marie, Alton Keith and five grandchildren.

I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the life of Marie Harris.

**HONORING DOUG CARROLL**

**HON. LOIS CAPPS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2009*

Mrs. CAPPS. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor Doug Carroll of San Luis Obispo, CA. He is a valued member of the Central Coast Community and a valiant champion for all those living with Multiple Sclerosis. Since being diagnosed, "Pastor Doug" has maintained an active schedule, traveling to Sacramento and Washington, DC to lobby on behalf of all those affected by this horrible disease.

Back on the Central Coast, Pastor Doug managed to fit in MS fundraising and awareness events between a busy social calendar, multiple doctor and physical therapy appointments and his famous cooking classes at Spencer Market. He is a friend and inspiration to all who know him.

Though his health has deteriorated, his desire to educate others about MS has not. Countless people in my community have learned of the horrible effects this degenera-

tive disease can have on an individual. Pastor Doug has handled these challenges with grace, good humor and humility. He is an example to us all and I am proud to represent him in Congress.

**RECOGNIZING MELVIN FRIERSON ON HIS RETIREMENT AS A STAFF MEMBER OF THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2009*

Mr. COSTELLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Melvin Frierson as he retires after 23 years of service to the U.S. House of Representatives.

Mel began his federal career as a staff member for Congressman Mel Price, in 1986. When Congressman Price passed away in 1988 and I was elected to fill the vacant seat, Mel remained as one of my senior staff members and he has served loyally and with distinction ever since.

In addition to his work as a member of my Congressional staff, Mel has long been involved in local politics and was a precinct committeeman in East St. Louis for over 30 years. Mel is a 33d degree Mason and has been involved in Freemasonry for 40 years. He was the Grand Master of the Most Worshipful Prince Hall Grand Lodge Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Illinois for 2 terms, from 1985 to 1986 and is currently Deputy of the Orient for the Scottish Rite, Masonry, Prince Hall Affiliation in the State of Illinois.

Mel's community and charitable involvement has been extensive. For years, he has delivered food to needy families during the holidays, often covering the cost himself. He has also participated in the Toys for Tots campaign as well as the Relay for Life which supports the American Cancer Society.

Mel's faith and his family have always been his cornerstones. He is a long-time member of the Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church, in East St. Louis. Mel's family, including daughters, Ingrid and Kimberly, son Brett and grandchildren have been a source of great pride and will no doubt see a good deal more of their father and grandfather now that he is retiring.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in an expression of recognition and appreciation for a loyal staff member and good friend.

**HONORING MR. TIMOTHY WILL FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE OF WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA**

**HON. HEATH SHULER**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2009*

Mr. SHULER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Timothy Will of Rutherfordton, North Carolina, for his exemplary service to the people of Western North Carolina. Mr. Will

recently received the \$100,000 Purpose Prize for two local projects he has dedicated his time, energy and resources toward.

Mr. Will created FarmersFreshMarket.org, a Web site that connects local small farmers to chefs and consumers in metropolitan areas. Many of these farmers were previously unemployed after textile and furniture factory closings in the area. FarmersFreshMarket.org opens farmers to a new, lucrative market and helps those in urban areas take part in the local food movement and reconnect to the farm to serve local, fresh, and seasonal fare in their homes and restaurants.

Mr. Will also helped create the Foothills Connect Business and Technology Center to support local entrepreneurs and provide community Internet access to an area with few public computer terminals, and limited home and business access. With the help of grants, Foothills Connect wired Rutherford County's public schools with fiber optic connections. Foothills Connect also trained teachers how to use the technology, and instructed area residents on how to refurbish old computers to donate to low-income families.

By creating new business opportunities and providing vital community services to an area hit hard by unemployment, Mr. Will is a testament to the spirit of entrepreneurship and community giving. I am proud to honor Mr. Will today, and want to thank him for his invaluable contributions to Western North Carolina.

#### INTRODUCING THE FREE COMPETITION IN CURRENCY ACT

**HON. RON PAUL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2009*

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, I rise to introduce the Free Competition in Currency Act of 2009. Currency, or money, is what allows civilization to flourish. In the absence of money, barter is the name of the game; if the farmer needs shoes, he must trade his eggs and milk to the cobbler and hope that the cobbler needs eggs and milk. Money makes the transaction process far easier. Rather than having to search for someone with reciprocal wants, the farmer can exchange his milk and eggs for an agreed-upon medium of exchange with which he can then purchase shoes.

This medium of exchange should satisfy certain properties: it should be durable, that is to say, it does not wear out easily; it should be portable, that is, easily carried; it should be divisible into units usable for everyday transactions; it should be recognizable and uniform, so that one unit of money has the same properties as every other unit; it should be scarce, in the economic sense, so that the extant supply does not satisfy the wants of everyone demanding it; it should be stable, so that the value of its purchasing power does not fluctuate wildly; and it should be reproducible, so that enough units of money can be created to satisfy the needs of exchange.

Over millennia of human history, gold and silver have been the two metals that have most often satisfied these conditions, survived the market process, and gained the trust of billions of people. Gold and silver are difficult to counterfeit, a property which ensures they

will always be accepted in commerce. It is precisely for this reason that gold and silver are anathema to governments. A supply of gold and silver that is limited in supply by nature cannot be inflated, and thus serves as a check on the growth of government. Without the ability to inflate the currency, governments find themselves constrained in their actions, unable to carry on wars of aggression or to appease their overtaxed citizens with bread and circuses.

At this country's founding, there was no government controlled national currency. While the Constitution established the congressional power of minting coins, it was not until 1792 that the U.S. Mint was formally established. In the meantime, Americans made do with foreign silver and gold coins. Even after the Mint's operations got underway, foreign coins continued to circulate within the United States, and did so for several decades.

On the desk in my office I have a sign that says: "Don't steal—the government hates competition." Indeed, any power a government arrogates to itself, it is loathe to give back to the people. Just as we have gone from a constitutionally instituted national defense consisting of a limited army and navy bolstered by militias and letters of marque and reprisal, we have moved from a system of competing currencies to a government-instituted banking cartel that monopolizes the issuance of currency. In order to reintroduce a system of competing currencies, there are three steps that must be taken to produce a legal climate favorable to competition.

The first step consists of eliminating legal tender laws. Article I Section 10 of the Constitution forbids the States from making anything but gold and silver a legal tender in payment of debts. States are not required to enact legal tender laws, but should they choose to, the only acceptable legal tender is gold and silver, the two precious metals that individuals throughout history and across cultures have used as currency. However, there is nothing in the Constitution that grants the Congress the power to enact legal tender laws. We, the Congress, have the power to coin money, regulate the value thereof, and of foreign coin, but not to declare a legal tender. Yet, there is a section of U.S. Code, 31 U.S.C. 5103, that purports to establish U.S. coins and currency, including Federal Reserve notes, as legal tender.

Historically, legal tender laws have been used by governments to force their citizens to accept debased and devalued currency. Gresham's Law describes this phenomenon, which can be summed up in one phrase: bad money drives out good money. An emperor, a king, or a dictator might mint coins with half an ounce of gold and force merchants, under pain of death, to accept them as though they contained one ounce of gold. Each ounce of the king's gold could now be minted into two coins instead of one, so the king now had twice as much "money" to spend on building castles and raising armies. As these legally overvalued coins circulated, the coins containing the full ounce of gold would be pulled out of circulation and hoarded. We saw this same phenomenon happen in the mid-1960s when the U.S. government began to mint subsidiary coinage out of copper and nickel rather than silver. The copper and nickel coins were legally overvalued, the silver coins undervalued in relation, and silver coins vanished from circulation.

These actions also give rise to the most pernicious effects of inflation. Most of the merchants and peasants who received this devalued currency felt the full effects of inflation, the rise in prices and the lowered standard of living, before they received any of the new currency. By the time they received the new currency, prices had long since doubled, and the new currency they received would give them no benefit.

In the absence of legal tender laws, Gresham's Law no longer holds. If people are free to reject debased currency, and instead demand sound money, sound money will gradually return to use in society. Merchants would have been free to reject the king's coin and accept only coins containing full metal weight.

The second step to reestablishing competing currencies is to eliminate laws that prohibit the operation of private mints. One private enterprise which attempted to popularize the use of precious metal coins was Liberty Services, the creators of the Liberty Dollar. Evidently the government felt threatened, as Liberty Dollars had all their precious metal coins seized by the FBI and Secret Service in November of 2007. Of course, not all of these coins were owned by Liberty Services, as many were held in trust as backing for silver and gold certificates which Liberty Services issued. None of this matters, of course, to the government, which hates competition. The responsibility to protect contracts is of no interest to the government.

The sections of U.S. Code which Liberty Services is accused of violating are erroneously considered to be anti-counterfeiting statutes, when in fact their purpose was to shut down private mints that had been operating in California. California was awash in gold in the aftermath of the 1849 gold rush, yet had no U.S. Mint to mint coinage. There was not enough foreign coinage circulating in California either, so private mints stepped into the breach to provide their own coins. As was to become the case in other industries during the Progressive era, the private mints were eventually accused of circulating debased (substandard) coinage, and with the supposed aim of providing government-sanctioned regulation and a government guarantee of purity, the 1864 Coinage Act was passed, which banned private mints from producing their own coins for circulation as currency.

The final step to ensuring competing currencies is to eliminate capital gains and sales taxes on gold and silver coins. Under current federal law, coins are considered collectibles, and are liable for capital gains taxes. Short-term capital gains rates are at income tax levels, up to 35 percent, while long-term capital gains taxes are assessed at the collectibles rate of 28 percent. Furthermore, these taxes actually tax monetary debasement. As the dollar weakens, the nominal dollar value of gold increases. The purchasing power of gold may remain relatively constant, but as the nominal dollar value increases, the Federal Government considers this an increase in wealth, and taxes accordingly. Thus, the more the dollar is debased, the more capital gains taxes must be paid on holdings of gold and other metals.

Just as pernicious are the sales and use taxes which are assessed on gold and silver at the state level in many States. Imagine having to pay sales tax at the bank every time you change a \$10 bill for a roll of quarters to do laundry. Inflation is a pernicious tax on the

value of money, but even the official numbers, which are massaged downwards, are only on the order of 4 percent per year. Sales taxes in many states can take away 8 percent or more on every single transaction in which consumers wish to convert their Federal Reserve Notes into gold or silver.

In conclusion, Madam Speaker, allowing for competing currencies will allow market participants to choose a currency that suits their needs, rather than the needs of the government. The prospect of American citizens turning away from the dollar towards alternate currencies will provide the necessary impetus to the U.S. Government to regain control of the dollar and halt its downward spiral. Restoring soundness to the dollar will remove the government's ability and incentive to inflate the currency, and keep us from launching unconstitutional wars that burden our economy to excess. With a sound currency, everyone is better off, not just those who control the monetary system. I urge my colleagues to consider the redevelopment of a system of competing currencies and cosponsor the Free Competition in Currency Act.

#### OPPOSITION TO THE STUPAK AMENDMENT

**HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2009*

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, I have witnessed the horror of the choice between a back alley abortion and a forced marriage to avoid disgrace.

These were the realities women faced prior to 1973. My fear is that if this harmful Stupak/Pitts language is signed into law, we will revert back to those dark times.

Critical to this debate is to break down the facts. The opposition claims that the Stupak/Pitts amendment codifies current law. This is grossly incorrect.

Stupak-Pitts goes far beyond current law by placing unprecedented restrictions on individuals' use of their own private dollars. The Hyde amendment does not apply to private funding nor does it apply to administrative costs. It has only placed limits on direct Federal appropriations being used to fund abortion benefits. The Stupak amendment expands the Hyde prohibitions on the use of federal funds for an abortion benefit to include "any part of the costs of any health plan that includes coverage of abortion."

The opposition claims that this amendment will not change current insurance plans for women. This is blatantly wrong.

A report by health policy experts at the George Washington University School of Public Health concludes that the Stupak amendment "will have an industry-wide effect, eliminating coverage of medically indicated abortions over time for all women, not only those whose coverage is derived through a health insurance exchange."

The opposition claims that the segregation of funding under the House bill is an accounting sham. This is blatantly false.

In the Capps amendment, the segregation of funding piece is based on the current model the Federal Government uses to pay for abortions permitted in Medicaid.

I am afraid that we are driving young women, poor women, back to the dark alley, and I dread to see that day.

#### EXPRESSING CONGRATULATIONS TO GLENVILLE HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM ON HISTORIC 2009 SEASON

**HON. MARCIA L. FUDGE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2009*

Ms. FUDGE. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Glenville High School football team on its historic season. This Division I team became the first Cleveland Public School to compete for the state championship last Saturday.

While track icon Jesse Owens and the creators of Superman were products of Glenville, it has never had a state football champion.

This year's players are champions in every sense of the word. They play football at Glenville High School for the structure that football provides and the mentorship of their coach, Ted Ginn, Sr.

More than 100 of Ginn's players have earned athletic scholarships. Five play in the NFL.

Glenville played valiantly in the state championship, but lost by one point.

Again, I congratulate the Glenville High football team, students, Coach Ginn, his assistant coaches, our supportive community, and Glenville Principal Jacqueline Bell on an amazing season. Next year they will bring home the trophy!

#### OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2009*

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today our national debt is \$12,091,292,877,094.86. We have increased the national debt \$5,120,762,726.63 since just yesterday.

On January 6, 2009, the start of the 111th Congress, the national debt was \$10,638,425,746,293.80.

This means the national debt has increased by \$1,452,867,130,801.06 so far this year.

According to the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office, the forecast deficit for this year is \$1.6 trillion. That means that so far this year, we borrowed and spent \$4.4 billion a day more than we have collected, passing that debt and its interest payments to our children and all future Americans.

#### EARMARK DECLARATION

**HON. KEVIN BRADY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2009*

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican leadership standards

on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks my district received as part of H.R. 3288—Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2010.

Requesting Member: Congressman KEVIN BRADY, Texas 8th Congressional District  
Bill Number: H.R. 3288—Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2010

Project: 1-69 Texas Environmental Studies, TX

Account: Interstate Maintenance Discretionary, Federal Highway Administration

Requesting Entity: Alliance for I-69 Texas, Texas Department of Transportation

Address of Requesting Entity: 1200 Smith, Suite 700, Houston, TX 77002

The original I-69 project began in 1991 and involves long-planned upgrades of US 59, 277 and 281 to interstate standards to increase motorist safety and mobility in the Houston and East Texas region. It is, thankfully, no longer included in the ill-fated Trans Texas Corridor. The original project enjoys the support of a broad collaboration of mayors, county judges, economic development groups, chambers of commerce and transportation officials from dozens of Texas communities, including several in the Eighth Congressional District. The \$500,000 I requested on behalf of the Texas leaders of the I-69 coalition will provide the Texas Department of Transportation funding to complete the necessary environmental studies to begin construction on these much needed upgrades.

This bill also credits me, four of my colleagues in the House and our two distinguished Senators as requesting an additional \$1.5 million under the Interstate Maintenance Discretionary and the Surface Transportation Priorities accounts. I appreciate the support of my colleagues and the Committee for this important project. I know the additional funds are greatly needed. However, in all honesty, the other members deserve credit for these funds since I submitted only the original \$500,000 funding for the environmental studies.

Requesting Member: Congressman KEVIN BRADY, Texas 8th Congressional District

Bill Number: H.R. 3288—Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2010

Project: The District Capital Cost of Contracting, Montgomery County, TX

Account: Buses and Bus Facilities, Federal Transit Administration

Requesting Entity: The Brazos Transit District (The District)

Address of Requesting Entity: 1759 N. Earl Rudder Freeway, Bryan, Texas 77803

This request helps provide an important transportation service to over 700,000 Montgomery County commuters each year through four Park-and-Ride facilities. It also helps provide regular van service for East Texas veterans to VA facilities in the region. Through these services, the funding also helps reduce congestion along Interstate 45 and helps the region meet its clear air goals.

The \$1,000,000 included in this bill reduces the equipment costs of providing these transportation services.

Requesting Member: Congressman KEVIN BRADY, Texas 8th Congressional District

Bill Number: H.R. 3288—Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2010

Project: Pulmonary Hypertension Awareness Program

Account: Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Requesting Entity: Pulmonary Hypertension Association

Address of Requesting Entity: 801 Roeder Rd., Suite 400, Silver Spring, MD 20910

I have supported strengthening Pulmonary Hypertension (PH) education for over ten years; and for this reason and for the third year in a row, I have requested funding to strengthen and continue a successful partnership between the non-profit Pulmonary Hypertension Association and the Centers for Disease Control. PH is a serious and often fatal condition where the blood pressure in the lungs rises to dangerously high levels. In PH patients the walls of the arteries that take blood from the right side of the heart to the lungs thicken and constrict. As a result, the right side of the heart has to pump harder to move blood into the lungs, causing it to enlarge and ultimately fail.

This request will allow the partners to continue to develop a pulmonary hypertension awareness program to better educate the medical community and the public about the disease, and lead to earlier diagnosis and longer life spans.

The \$250,000 included in this bill for this project will be allocated to continue two components in the fight against pulmonary hypertension: the PHA Online University, a curriculum-based website for medical professionals, and a significant expansion of PHAware, a grassroots media campaign.

I also appreciate the Committee's support through report language encouraging further collaboration and research efforts on pulmonary hypertension within government agencies. The efforts of these organizations on issues including lung transplantation, the establishment of a PH Clinical Research Network and the increase in pulmonary hypertension diagnoses related to the abuse of methamphetamine will further our understanding of this disease.

Requesting Member: Congressman KEVIN BRADY, Texas 8th Congressional District

Bill Number: H.R. 3288—Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2010

Project: SHSU Regional Crime Lab

Account: Office of Justice Programs, Byrne Discretionary Grants

Requesting Entity: Sam Houston State University

Address of Requesting Entity: 1803 Avenue I, Huntsville, TX 77341

Law enforcement agencies in rural communities experience long waits and backlogs when requesting services from major cities like Houston. This request allows Sam Houston State University—one of the nation's foremost criminal justice universities—to use its expertise in forensic science to begin operations of the Regional Crime Laboratory started with funding I previously secured. This lab will provide important forensics services to local law enforcement such as identification of controlled substances, toxicology screening and fingerprint matching. The lab will be able to service communities in a 75-mile wide area.

The \$1,000,000 included in this bill for this project will be allocated to staff the SHSU Regional Crime Lab and make it operational for serving regional law enforcement agencies. Specific budget items include: capital outlays (54%); salaries and benefits for laboratory staff (37%); lab supplies (8%); and sub-contracts for staff training (1%).

#### EARMARK DECLARATION

### HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

Mr. CRENSHAW. Madam Speaker, I rise today to submit documentation consistent with the Republican earmark standards.

Requesting Member: Congressman ANDER CRENSHAW

Bill Number: H.R. 3288—Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2010

Account: Employment and Training Administration (ETA)—Training and Employment Services

Legal Name of Receiving Entity: Florida Manufacturing Extension Partnership (Florida MEP)

Address of Receiving Entity: 1180 Celebration Blvd., Suite 103, Celebration, FL 34747

Description of Request: I have secured \$100,000 in funding in H.R. 3228, in the Employment and Training Administration (ETA)—Training and Employment Services account for Florida Manufacturing Extension Partnership in Celebration, FL.

The purpose of this funding is to deploy the proven Mobile Outreach Skills Training (M.O.S.T.) program in Florida. The program is a three-phase rapid training and job placement initiative in which nearly 100 percent of trainees who successfully complete the 2-week Phase I receive job offers from the participating manufacturers.

This is a valuable use of taxpayer funding because the program provides skills to veterans, the disadvantaged, and TANF families that lead to jobs and medical coverage, a capability that does not exist in current training programs.

There are no matching funds required or allowed for this project.

Requesting Member: Congressman ANDER CRENSHAW

Bill Number: H.R. 3288—Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2010

Account: HRSA—Health Facilities Construction and Equipment

Legal Name of Receiving Entity: Shands HealthCare

Address of Receiving Entity: 720 SW 2nd Avenue, Suite 360A, Gainesville, FL 32601

Description of Request: I have secured \$100,000 in funding in H.R. 3228, in the Health Facilities Construction and Equipment account for the purchase of equipment.

The purpose of this funding is to purchase a biplane angiography system at Shands Jacksonville to continue to maintain the expert quality of care for its Level One trauma center and its JCAHO Accredited Stroke Service. This biplane angiography system will improve patient care, enhance operational efficiency, and replace outdated equipment.

This is a valuable use of taxpayer funding because funding will help purchase a biplane angiography system that will allow physicians to accurately visualize clots or other vascular abnormalities. This will reduce diagnostic and procedure time while helping to avoid more invasive procedures.

There are no matching funds required or allowed for this project.

#### HONORING ROBERT G. KIGGANS

### HON. J. GRESHAM BARRETT

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Robert G. Kiggans of Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina, and fellow alumnus of the Citadel, for a lifetime of distinguished leadership and service to the citizens of our State and our country. From his early days as a cadet at the Citadel to his current position as chief operating officer and president of the South Carolina Research Authority's, SCRA, Federal Sector, Bob has led an exemplary life and maintained a steadfast work ethic. His contributions to South Carolina and the United States in the fields of advanced computer and data technologies, program and technical management, manufacturing technologies, and command and control systems is recognized internationally. He is the embodiment of what makes America strong.

After receiving his undergraduate degree from the Citadel—where he excelled in both academics and athletics, achieving All-Time Letterman status as a member of the men's basketball team—Bob earned his master's degree from the Air Force Institute of Technology. Upon graduation, Bob served his country as a navigator on B-52 model aircraft with the United States Air Force, operating from bases in Southeast Asia. He also directed advanced computer technology programs for the Air Force Strategic Command, SAC, including the development of a multi-million dollar automated executive information system, as well as other assignments. Having served his country with distinction, Bob retired from the Air Force as a lieutenant colonel. After his military experience, Bob served as the deputy director of the Information Science and Technology Office at the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, DARPA, assistant for program integration with the Department of Defense Joint Program Management Office. In addition to the foregoing achievements, Bob was appointed by the Department of Commerce to serve as head of the U.S. Delegation to the international Intelligent Manufacturing Systems Steering Committee and worked as a research fellow with the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

After serving his country in both a uniform and civilian capacity, Bob entered the private sector where he has worked for a variety of companies and nonprofit corporations including Cincinnati Electronics and the first president of the Advanced Technology Institute, ATI, a world leader in distributed technology management and affiliate of his current employer, the South Carolina Research Authority. Since its establishment in 1983, SCRA has fostered entrepreneurial development, introduced technological advancements, and supported countless industry leaders and small businesses throughout South Carolina and the Nation.

Through hard work and dedication, Bob has made significant contributions to our country's information technology and manufacturing technologies. His distinguished leadership and service has been invaluable, and for this I applaud him. His dedication to his family, friends,

and colleagues should stand as an example of what we should all hope to be. I join Bob's colleagues at the South Carolina Research Authority, the citizens of our State, and his wife, Penny, his daughters and grandchildren in commending Robert G. Kiggans for his lifetime of service to South Carolina and this great Nation. May God bless them all.

**EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES TO  
FAMILIES OF VICTIMS OF  
SOWELL MURDERS AND DECRY-  
ING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN**

**HON. MARCIA L. FUDGE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2009*

Ms. FUDGE. Madam Speaker, Anthony Sowell raped and murdered 11 women in my own Congressional District. I offer condolences to the families of these women, whose names are: Tonia Carmichael, Nancy Cobbs, Tishana Culver, Crystal Dozier, Telacia Fortson, Amelda Hunter, Leshanda Long, Michelle Mason, Kim Yvette Smith, Diane Turner, and Janice Webb.

In honor of the women he victimized, we must address the underlying issue of violence against women.

Consider that 1 in every 4 American women will experience domestic violence in her lifetime. However, only about half of domestic violence incidents are reported to police. Even though African-American women are more likely than others to report their victimization to police, intimate partner homicide is the leading cause of death for African-American women ages 15–45.

A report issued in 2000 found that 17.6 percent of women in the United States have survived rape or attempted rape. Of these, 21.6 percent were younger than age 12 when they were first raped, and 32.4 percent were between the ages of 12 and 17. About half of all rape victims are in the lowest third of our national income distribution.

In 2010, the Violence Against Women Act is scheduled for reauthorization. Since its enactment, this Act has saved the lives of numerous women by providing funding for life-saving shelters and services, and educating the public about the cycle of violence. Congress has a unique opportunity to strengthen these programs and raise the profile of violence against women. Our Nation's current response is insufficient.

As we move forward, we must act with outrage about how our nation responds to violence against women and girls. Education and prevention is the key to break this cycle of violence.

**COMMEMORATING THE LIFE AND  
ACHIEVEMENTS OF ISIAH "IKE"  
JESSE WILLIAMS III**

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2009*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life and

achievements of my lifelong friend and widely respected community leader, Isiah "Ike" Jesse Williams III, who died on November 25, 2009, in Jacksonville, Florida, at the age of 78. Ike had been diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease 6 years prior to his death, and my thoughts and prayers go out to his wife, Marilyn Wilkerson-Williams; daughter, Helen Rogers; sons, Rodney Williams, Ira Marche, Isiah Williams IV, and Mark Benson; and the rest of his family and friends at this most difficult time. Ike was a community activist, scholar, lawyer, publisher, journalist, historian, and union organizer. Above all, however, he was a true inspiration to everyone who knew him.

Ike was born to Helen and Isiah Williams of Jacksonville on September 27, 1931. He attended Fessenden Academy, a small private school in Ocala, Florida, and graduated in 1949. A truly brilliant man, Ike went on to earn numerous degrees, including an associate's degree from Edward Waters College, a bachelor's Degree from Florida Memorial College, a Juris Doctor from Florida A & M University, and a master's degree from Brooklyn Law School in New York. He also studied at the New School for Social Research and Xavier Institute of Labor Relation in New York City. During his studies, Ike pledged Psi Beta Sigma, of which he was a dedicated member for more than 50 years.

A man of courage and excellence, Ike served with distinction in the U.S. Army and was a proud veteran of the Korean war. After his service, he moved to New York and successfully practiced law for 10 years. It was during those historic years of the civil rights movement that Ike was an attorney for the Black Panthers and became friends with powerful leaders such as Adam Clayton Powell and Malcolm X.

Back in his home State of Florida, Ike continued his fight for civil equality in the community. He was a true champion of the people and came to be known as a respected community leader in Jacksonville through the many important organizations where he held positions. Ike was a lifetime member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), a Mason, a founding member of the National Business League, and the founder of the Jacksonville Advocate, which was published weekly for 30 years. Furthermore, Ike also served as Publisher Emeritus of the People's Advocate. Both newspapers featured articles that highlighted accomplishments in the African American community. An early member of the Jacksonville Historic Landmarks Commission, Ike was a fitting keeper for the preservation of the history of the African American community and organized the Joseph E. Lee Library-Museum. In addition, he also helped form the Brotherhood of Black Firefighters.

Ike's hard work and dedication on behalf of all those who have been denied a voice earned him many awards. In 2005, he was awarded with the Onyx Award for Communications, a state honor that he dearly cherished. Most recently, he received the National Whitney M. Young Lifetime Achievement award presented by the Jacksonville Urban League.

Madam Speaker, Ike's legacy will live on for generations to come in the lives he has

touched, and continues to touch. He was my dear friend and I am proud and fortunate to have known him.

**HONORING VINCENT PETRUCCI**

**HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2009*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Vincent Petrucci upon being honored with the "Lifetime Achievement Award" at the 2009 San Joaquin Winegrowers Association 7th Annual San Joaquin Valley Wine & Grape Industry Forum. The luncheon will be held in Fresno, California, on Friday, November 20, 2009.

Mr. Vincent Petrucci was born on July 13, 1913, in California. He attended the University of California, Davis where he earned his bachelors of science degree in pomology in 1947 and his masters of science degree in horticulture in 1948. Upon completion of his masters, he was hired by Fresno State College, now California State University Fresno, as a faculty member with the task of organizing and developing the curriculum and facilities of the viticulture and enology program. Mr. Petrucci played an instrumental role in developing the Viticulture and Enology Research Center which opened in 1985 where he has served as director and is currently director emeritus. He taught classes in grape and wine production, raisin production and processing and numerous other classes encompassing the field of viticulture. After 45 years, Mr. Petrucci retired in 1993 from California State University, Fresno and was awarded an honorary doctorate of science degree on May 28, 1994.

Over the years, Mr. Petrucci has served as a consultant, offering advice to many European and South American countries as well as China and Australia. He has been active in several organizations including the International Office of Wine and Vine, the American Society of Horticulture Science, the California Grape Growers Coalition, the University of California Grape Research Committee, the American Vineyard Foundation, and the American Society for Enology and Viticulture. He has also published numerous papers, journal, articles and written books on the subject of wine and grape growing. Mr. Petrucci's involvement has resulted in the international recognition of the viticulture program at CSU Fresno. For his accomplishments, Mr. Petrucci received the CSU Fresno "Outstanding Professor Award" in 1971, was named Wine and Vines "Man of the Year" in 1981, received the "Founder Award" for Enology in 1985, CSU Fresno "Meritorious Performance and Professional Promise Award" in 1986, the University of California, Davis "Distinguished Achievement Award" in 1995 and the American Vineyard "Outstanding Service Award" in 1996.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Vincent Petrucci upon being honored with the "Lifetime Achievement Award." I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Petrucci many years of continued success.

RECOGNIZING THE HARRISON  
SCHMITT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
FOR RECEIVING THE BLUE RIB-  
BON AWARD

**HON. HARRY TEAGUE**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2009*

Mr. TEAGUE. Madam Speaker, I want to congratulate Harrison Schmitt Elementary School in Silver City, New Mexico, for receiving the Blue Ribbon School Award awarded by the U.S. Department of Education for demonstrating academic excellence and dramatic gains in student achievement levels.

The Blue Ribbon Schools award was created in 1982 to recognize schools where the students attain and maintain high academic standards and are pushed to improve themselves and further their dedication to scholastic achievement. This award shows that Harrison Schmitt Elementary School is striving to close the achievement gap.

Schools like Harrison Schmitt Elementary achieve such great distinctions because of the hard work and its dedicated educators and families. The students also deserve to be recognized for making the most of the opportunities afforded to them by the excellent staff. Harrison Schmitt Elementary School is a prime example for the academic progress other schools throughout the nation should strive to achieve.

I am honored to have Blue Ribbon Schools like Harrison Schmitt Elementary School in my district. I commend their achievement and wish them luck in the continuing their academic achievement.

PERMANENT ESTATE TAX RELIEF  
FOR FAMILIES, FARMERS, AND  
SMALL BUSINESSES ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

**HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 3, 2009*

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4154, the Permanent Estate Tax Relief for Families, Farmers, and Small Businesses Act of 2009. This legislation is a necessary step in cleaning up the toxic fiscal legacy of the Bush administration.

The estate tax is set to expire completely in 2010 unless Congress acts. Under current estate tax parameters, an individual can inherit, tax-free, a trust fund worth \$3.5 million—more than a middle class family making \$70,000 a year earns in a lifetime. For couples, the exemption is \$7 million. H.R. 4154 would permanently extend these generous parameters, ensuring that 99.8 percent of Americans never pay a dime in estate taxes.

This legislation helps put the Nation back on a path of fiscal sustainability. While it affects only a handful of the wealthiest Americans, the estate tax is an important source of Federal revenue. Eliminating this tax completely would expand the deficit by \$662 billion and reduce funding available for schools, roads and other priority investments. The bill also includes a “pay-as-you-go” provision that mandates fiscally responsible spending, restoring a 1990s law that turned record deficits into surpluses.

Without congressional action, the estate tax will return in 2011 at a much higher rate. By permanently extending current levels, H.R. 4154 is a compromise between higher estate taxes in the next decade and a complete elimination of the tax.

Republican opposition to this compromise legislation is wrong-headed and hypocritical. By supporting nothing but a full repeal, Republicans are pushing for a policy that adds \$662 billion to the deficit. This is extraordinarily irresponsible in a time of rising deficits and economic recession. With many middle-class families losing their jobs and their homes, it is difficult to justify a costly new tax cut for the Nation's wealthiest estates so they can pass on even larger inheritances tax-free. H.R. 4154 is a far more reasonable approach.

HONORING BAYSHORE  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2009*

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, the people of the Second District of Texas are proud to recognize the students, faculty, and staff of Bayshore Elementary School in La Porte, Texas. Bayshore Elementary has earned the prestigious rating of “Exemplary” from the Texas Education Agency. This honor is especially meaningful for the students, teachers, and administrators of Bayshore Elementary because of the challenges they faced in the aftermath of Hurricane Ike.

Despite being dispersed to five other neighboring campuses, the students of Bayshore still performed at the “Exemplary” level on the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills test. In the tradition of the Americans and Texans that have gone before them, the students and staff of Bayshore Elementary were able to rise above a difficult situation and achieve excellence in the face of adversity. This award not only recognizes their resilience but their determination to overcome difficulty and that is extremely honorable.

The Second District of Texas is proud of Bayshore Elementary school and commends them for their “Exemplary” award.

CELEBRATING THE 60TH ANNIVER-  
SARY OF THE VOICE OF AMER-  
ICA'S UKRAINIAN SERVICE

**HON. MARCY KAPTUR**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2009*

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise today on the special occasion of the 60th anniversary of the Voice of America's first Ukrainian-language broadcast. As Co-chair of the Ukrainian Caucus, it is my honor to recognize this day. In the darkest hours of the cold war, Ukrainians behind the Iron Curtain have received VOA broadcasts of accurate, balanced and comprehensive news and information. The VOA reports that Ukrainian dissidents imprisoned in Siberian camps and human rights activists who worked clandestinely to avoid arrest say they drew strength from its broadcasts.

As the Communist system began to fissure, VOA notes it continued to provide Ukrainians

with the news and information that their own censored, government-controlled media would not provide. Through the decades VOA was there to tell Ukrainians stories about the Hungarian Revolution in 1956, the Prague Spring of 1968, the rise of the Solidarity movement in Poland in the 1980s, the cover up of the Chornobyl nuclear power plant explosion in 1986, the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989, and the Ukrainian independence and democracy movement which played a key role in the collapse of the U.S.S.R. in 1991. Through Ukraine's struggles with independency, VOA was a vital source of accurate news and responsible commentary.

Today, VOA continues to reach millions of Ukrainians each week. The radio broadcasts that began in the early cold war period have been replaced with daily television broadcasts and reporting on VOA's web site. Ukrainians still look to VOA not only to hear about the Washington perspective on what is happening in Ukraine, but also to comprehend America's story—its foreign policy objectives, national politics, social challenges, culture, arts, educational opportunities, business successes and achievements in science, technology, and medicine. The United States continues to serve as an important example for Ukrainians on maintaining a vibrant, prosperous, pluralistic society. Through its strict adherence to journalistic excellence over the past 60 years, the Voice of America's Ukrainian Service has been a key institution in U.S. public diplomacy. Today, its mission remains critical as ever, and we proudly mark this milestone anniversary.

IN RECOGNITION OF DANE  
NOWELS

**HON. DOUG LAMBORN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2009*

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dane Nowels, an American patriot who passed away on December 1, 2009. As a resident of Colorado Springs and Colorado, Nowels was a true servant to his nation and community. I rise today to honor his contribution to our community and country.

Born in Oakland California on October 18, 1947, Nowels graduated from The Ohio State University in 1969 with a degree in agricultural economics. As an agricultural enthusiast, Nowel was a four time National Champion in Tractor Pulling using the tractors that he built himself.

After service in the Army and a career as a commodities broker, Nowels moved to Colorado Springs, Colorado to provide heavy equipment to farmers and ranchers throughout southern Colorado for Ellen Equipment Company.

Nowels was a natural leader, and he used his talents to serve others in the El Paso County community. As President of the Pikes Peak Firearms Coalition and Vice-Chairman of the El Paso County Republican Party, Nowels accomplished much in El Paso County in defense of liberty. Nowels encouraged minorities, youth, young adults, and businesspeople to rally behind local and state candidates who



exhibit support for a strong national defense and limited government. He was an advocate for traditional American values based upon the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights, especially the Second Amendment right to bear arms. In addition, Nowels was an active member of the Pikes Peak Economics Forum, often speaking to and debating area high school and college students about the free market system and the Constitutional rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

Throughout his life, Nowels was committed to serving this great country, whether in the Army or defending liberty in his community. I mourn his passing, and today ask that we honor the life of a true American hero.

COMMENDING THE SOLDIERS AND  
CIVILIAN PERSONNEL STA-  
TIONED AT FORT GORDON

SPEECH OF

**HON. PAUL C. BROWN**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 7, 2009*

Mr. BROWN of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the soldiers, civilians, and military families stationed at Fort Gordon for their service and dedication to the United States, and to honor the lineage of Fort Gordon as an indispensable communications installation and training center in our Nation's history.

Fort Gordon was originally conceived as Camp Gordon on October 18, 1941, as an answer to America's fight in WWII Europe. Camp Gordon was home to three Army Divisions—the 4th Infantry Division, the 26th Infantry Division, and the 10th Armor Division. All served with distinction in the liberation of Europe from the Nazi tyranny. It was not until March 21, 1956, that Camp Gordon was given permanent status and renamed Fort Gordon.

Since that time, Fort Gordon's soldiers and civilians have continuously served with distinction in Vietnam, Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, and in current operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. All the while, the military family members were providing support while dealing with the hardship of long and often times multiple deployment separations.

In June 1986, the United States Army Signal Regiment was established and Fort Gordon was designated as the home base for the regiment. Fort Gordon is home not only to the Army's premier signal training center, but it is also home to deploying active and reserve Army units. The soldiers in these units take the lessons learned from the battlefield in order to incorporate the lessons into the signal training curriculum and in research and development. This functional and technical analysis has led to the development of mobile subscriber equipment, the Army's communication architecture and information mission area, which include integration of automation, communications, and visual information.

Fort Gordon's role as a communications leader was not achieved through individuality but through a combined effort of the Army and the citizens of Augusta who together have fostered a strong community. Margaret Mead said

it best when referring to the strength of a community, "never doubt that a small, group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has." These committed Augusta citizens were and are an essential part of Fort Gordon's history that has led to a safer and secure America.

REIT ENERGY GRANTS

**HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2009*

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the "Sustainable Property Grants Act of 2009," legislation that would allow real estate investment trusts (REITs) to fully benefit from the energy grants included in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (the Recovery Act).

Congress created REITs in 1960 to enable investors from all walks of life to own professionally managed, income-producing real estate. REITs combine the capital of many investors to benefit from a diversified portfolio of income-producing real estate, including apartments, health care facilities, hotels, offices and warehouses. REITs are required to distribute at least 90 percent of their taxable income. Most distribute their entire taxable income.

Buildings represent about 40 percent of all energy use and approximately 70 percent of all electricity consumption in the United States, but REITs, which own 6 billion square feet of commercial real estate, cannot currently access tax incentives designed to reduce their energy use. Providing incentives for REITs to engage in energy efficiency projects could significantly contribute to achieving our energy reduction goals.

That is why I am introducing legislation today to amend the Recovery Act to allow REITs to participate fully in the energy grants in lieu of tax credits program.

Section 1603 of the Recovery Act provides Energy Grants to companies that invest in qualifying renewable energy projects. These grants are intended to encourage qualifying investments by taxpayers whose tax liability is not sufficient to benefit from existing energy credits. In fact, the Recovery Act Energy Grants were designed as a substitute for energy credits during the current economic downturn since many taxpayers have inadequate tax liability to use the credits. Despite being designed for this purpose, the Energy Grants provision in the Recovery Act have been interpreted to benefit a REIT only to the extent it retains taxable income, which most do not.

This legislation would further existing Congressional policy and promote the greatest possible participation in efforts to increase the use of renewable energy. REITs would be afforded the same economic incentives as other property owners to make investments in renewable energy projects. With enough critical mass, these types of investments should help fuel the U.S. economy's growth, create additional jobs and, over time, reduce American reliance on foreign oil.

I hope that you will join me in supporting this legislation.

CONGRATULATING DAVID COHEN

**HON. STEVE ISRAEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2009*

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to offer my sincere congratulations to my constituent, David Cohen, upon being awarded the Dick Steinberg Good Guy Award. This honor is given to a Jewish individual who best demonstrates the good aspects of sportsmanship.

Like the award's namesake, David has earned the distinction in the sport of football. Dick Steinberg was the Vice-President and General Manager of the New York Jets for six years. He was widely regarded and was one of the most respected men in football. As Head Coach of the football team at Hofstra University, he has exemplified the behavior and character that the National Jewish Sports Hall of Fame and Museum believes deserves to be recognized.

I hope that he continues to act as a leader in our community and carry on the legacy of Dick Steinberg. Congratulations to David upon this receiving this great honor.

HONORING HENRY R. MUÑOZ III

**HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2009*

Mr. GONZALEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Henry R. Muñoz III, a public servant who has dedicated his professional career and philanthropic efforts to serving others, on the special occasion of his 50th birthday.

Born in San Antonio on December 14, 1959, Henry Muñoz has honored us with his vision and leadership for decades, benefiting our cities, state and country. As a longtime friend, I know firsthand his track record of service to this nation and especially to the great State of Texas.

Throughout his life, Mr. Muñoz has engaged in a number of different professions: entrepreneur, artist, philanthropist, and activist. From his appointments to the Texas Department of Transportation, VIA Transit, Smithsonian National Board, John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Cooper Hewitt National Design Museum, and many more, Mr. Muñoz has dedicated his passion and efforts to raising funds for these prestigious organizations. Mr. Muñoz has also raised over \$5 million in student scholarships, allowing young leaders in our communities pursue their dreams through higher education.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Henry Muñoz III as we celebrate his 50th birthday, a life highlighted by decades of community service, philanthropy, and leadership.

TRIBUTE TO MR. R. STEPHEN  
BEST

## HON. J. RANDY FORBES

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2009*

Mr. FORBES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Steve Best, on the occasion of his retirement as Fire Chief of the Chesapeake Fire Department.

Chief Best's contributions to the safety and health of the City of Chesapeake's citizens cannot be overstated. Chief Best modernized and diversified Chesapeake's fire and emergency personnel services to meet the wide-ranging challenges of modern life.

Chief Best began his fire fighting career as a sixteen-year-old volunteer with the Deep Creek Volunteer Fire Department. That experience led to professional firefighting with the Chesapeake Fire Department upon graduating from high school in 1974.

Working his way up through the ranks, Best worked as Fire Inspector and Fire Marshal for Chesapeake. He was promoted to Assistant Fire Chief, then Deputy Fire Chief until April 1998 when he became Chesapeake's Fire Chief and Emergency Services Coordinator.

Chief Best has ensured the Chesapeake Fire Department is able to respond to specialized situations involving hazardous materials, technical rescues, marine incidents, and foam firefighting. He greatly assisted in equipping every Chesapeake fire engine and ambulance with Advanced Life Support Equipment to save precious time in beginning life saving procedures. Best's fire department embodies a sense of community by offering programs such as child safety seat installations, fire station tours, and fire extinguisher training.

During his professional career, Chief Best continued to pursue educational opportunities. In addition to an Associate's Degree in Fire Science, a Bachelor of Science Degree in Governmental Administration, and a Master's Degree in Business Administration, Chief Best graduated with a Juris Doctor Degree from the Regent University School of Law in May 2008.

At home, Chief Best and his wife Sheree reside in Chesapeake. They are the proud parents of two sons. Chief Best teaches Sunday School at Deep Creek United Methodist Church and has served in many leadership roles on the Church Council. He has also served as a board member of the Boys and Girls Club of Southeast Virginia, Chesapeake Division, the Chesapeake Public School Foundation, and the YMCA Board of Management.

Chief Best deserves the gratitude of all of Chesapeake's residents for his innumerable accomplishments that have improved the quality of life here. Madam Speaker, please join me and the citizens of Chesapeake in offering our sincere congratulations to Chief Best on his exemplary service and a retirement well deserved.

WALL STREET REFORM AND CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

## HON. BRUCE L. BRALEY

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2009*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration of the bill (H.R. 4173) to provide for financial regulatory reform, to protect consumers and investors, to enhance Federal understanding of insurance issues, to regulate the over-the-counter derivatives markets, and for other purposes:

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Madam Chair, I strongly support the Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act and urge my Colleagues to vote for this bill.

I'm proud to chair the Populist Caucus. One of our founding principles is to fight for America's working families. For the past eight years, our economic policies have put the interests of Wall Street ahead of Main Street. Wall Street and big bank executives exploited loopholes and gambled with our money, which last year led us into the worst financial crisis since the Great Depression. And while some big banks continue to accept excessive compensation and bonus packages, America's middle class families are still struggling.

The firms that received more than \$350 billion in federal TARP funds increased executive compensation by an average of four percent last year. This is outrageous and unacceptable. This legislation will provide shareholders of public companies an annual vote on executive compensation and help reign in excessive executive compensation.

The Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act will hold Wall Street and big banks accountable by ending the practice of "too-big-to-fail," so that America's taxpayers and middle class families are never again forced to pay off Wall Street's gambling debts. It will manage financial crises by requiring banks and other financial institutions worth at least \$50 billion in assets to foot the bill for any bailouts in the future.

As we rebuild our economy, we must implement common-sense rules so that big banks and Wall Street don't jeopardize this recovery at the expense of hard-working Iowa families. This bill protects consumers from predatory lending abuses and finally brings transparency and accountability to an out-of-control financial system. It is about time that we put Main Street ahead of Wall Street. Thank you for taking up this important legislation.

### EARMARK DECLARATION

## HON. VERNON J. EHLERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 10, 2009*

Mr. EHLERS. Madam Speaker, pursuant to Republican Leadership standards, I am submitting the following information regarding projects I received funding for as part of as part of the conference report to the Consolidated Appropriations Act (H.R. 3288), which were not included in House-passed appropriations bills:

Requesting Member: Congressman VERNON J. EHLERS

Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Agency: Department of Health & Human Services

Account: Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)—Health Facilities and Services.

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Cherry Street Health Services

Address of Requesting Entity: 550 Cherry St., SE., Grand Rapids, MI 49503

Description of Request: The bill provides \$400,000 for Cherry Street Health Services for facilities and equipment. Cherry Street (community health center), Touchstone Innovare (mental health services) and ProAction (substance abuse/mental health treatment) are developing an integrated care system in which patients in need of both mental health and physical health care will be involved in an integrated plan of treatment in which both medical and mental health professionals from different agencies work together in the same office space to complete a plan of treatment, a valuable use of taxpayer funds. In order to provide services to an increased number of patients, the three agencies are building a 92,000 sq. ft. building that will house the operations of the three organizations. The medical, dental and vision care equipment requested will be used in the operation of a federally qualified health center for the treatment of low-income patients most of whom would otherwise not have access to primary health care services.

Requesting Member: Congressman VERNON J. EHLERS

Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Agency: Federal Transit Administration

Account: Buses and Bus Facilities

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: The Rapid

Address of Requesting Entity: 300 Ellsworth Ave., SW., Grand Rapids, Michigan, 49503

Description of Request: The bill provides \$1,948,000 for the Rapid's Wealthy Operations Center Expansion in Grand Rapids, Michigan. The funding was requested by the Rapid. This project is a valuable use of taxpayer funds because it will allow the Rapid, the region's largest public transportation service, to expand to accommodate growth needs over the next 30 years.

HONORING MS. EDNA FRADY FOR HER DECADES OF SERVICE TO THE CITY OF FALLS CHURCH, VIRGINIA

## HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 10, 2009*

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Edna Frady for her decades of service to the City of Falls Church, Virginia and its people. Moving to Falls Church at an early age, Edna has spent virtually her entire life in the community she has known and loved for over six decades. Through her charitable work and civic involvement, Edna, or "Boss" as she is known by many, has left an indelible mark on the City.

A tireless community activist, leader, friend, and role model, Edna Frady has made a lifelong commitment to improving the lives of others. The list of organizations she has served

over the years is extensive. The Citizens for a Better City, Village Preservation and Improvement Society, League of Women Voters, Women's Club of Falls Church, Falls Church Lions Club, Falls Church Education Foundation, Falls Church Arts Council, and Falls Church Cable Access, have all benefitted from her membership and constant support. Ms. Frady was also an active member of the Falls Church Chamber of Commerce, where she served as a member of the Executive Committee, and in 2000, was awarded the Chamber's "Pillar of the Community" award. In recognition of her lifetime of achievement, the Mayor and City Council of Falls Church are planning to proclaim December 14, 2009, "Edna Frady Day."

As heavily involved as Ms. Frady was with non-profit community service organizations, she matched that effort as a stalwart force in the Democratic Party. For two decades, she helped lead the Falls Church Democratic Committee, serving on both the 8th Congressional District Committee, and the Democratic State Central Committee. In honor of her commitment, Ms. Frady received the Democratic State Central Committee's "Grass Roots Award." In 2006, she was awarded the Falls Church Democratic Committee's "Marian Driver Award for Outstanding Service."

It's a true honor to recognize someone who so selflessly worked for the betterment of her community and fellow citizens. I know that even in retirement, Edna will continue to find ever more fulfilling challenges to assist those around her.

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TRIBUTE TO STEVEN AND JULIE  
KARBER

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**HON. TOM LATHAM**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 10, 2009*

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Steven and Julie Karber of Jefferson, Iowa, on being named the winners of the "Gary Wergin Good Farm Neighbor Award." This award recognizes Iowa livestock farmers who dedicate themselves not only to their professions and their community, but also to caring for the environment.

The state of Iowa is celebrating the Karber's achievements, but I feel that we in the U.S. House of Representatives should also recognize and commend the valuable professional and social contributions of Iowa's livestock farmers. Steve and Julie raise sheep in the Jefferson area of my district, but Steve is also an M.D. with an active practice. When the Karbers aren't promoting the sheep industry or handling the day to day demands of being a physician, they are actively supporting the local 4-H and are involved in other community organizations.

I commend Steve and Julie for their many years of loyalty and service to Iowa and to our country. It is an immense honor to represent them in Congress, and I know they will continue to serve as role models of the values of community service in this Country.

TAX EXTENDERS ACT OF 2009—

SPEECH OF

**HON. RUSH D. HOLT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2009*

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of legislation that will extend tax relief to millions of Americans, the Tax Extenders Act of 2009. This bill will extend 40 tax cuts which are due to expire at the end of this year, many of which are important to businesses and families in Central New Jersey.

New Jersey has the highest property taxes in the country. While property taxes are assessed on a local basis to fund local services and schools, I have attempted at the federal level to provide some relief to homeowners. Earlier this year, I reintroduced the Universal Homeowner Tax Relief Act (H.R. 2725) which would extend the property tax deduction for American homeowners who don't itemize on their federal returns. I helped write this initiative to create an additional standard deduction of \$500 for single filers and \$1,000 for joint filers for local real property taxes paid. I am pleased that the bill before us today extends this deduction for the 2010 tax year and provides needed relief to the 30 million homeowners nationwide and an estimated 600,000 New Jerseyans who are due to lose this benefit this year.

H.R. 4213 also includes \$17 billion in tax cuts that would help American businesses create and preserve jobs during these difficult economic times. It would extend the low-income housing tax credit exchange program which has invested more than \$3.7 billion in the construction of more than 49,000 low-income housing units nationwide. It will also invest \$3 billion to encourage economic development in economically distressed communities.

I especially support that H.R. 4213 would extend the research and development tax credit for an additional year. This tax credit is crucial in spurring private research and driving technological innovation and will support R&D at 11,000 American companies this year. This credit stimulates American made innovation and preserves and creates new high paying jobs in research and development. As important as the R&D tax credit has been, it has never been a permanent part of the tax code and has been allowed to expire several times, most notably in 2007. Congress should work to make this tax credit permanent in order to strengthen the incentive for businesses to invest in long-term research by giving corporate leaders certainty that their research investments will be rewarded year after year.

The Tax Extenders Act of 2009 also would extend the above-the-line deduction for qualified tuition and related expenses. This tax cut of up to \$4,000 helps parents offset the rising cost of higher education and keeps a college degree within reach of many middle class families. H.R. 4213 also would extend the teacher tax credit that allows teachers to deduct up to \$250 for purchasing classroom supplies for their students. More than 3.4 million teachers benefited from this tax credit this year.

The Tax Extenders Act ensures that these tax cuts do not increase the deficit by providing the U.S. Treasury Department with significant new tools to find and prosecute U.S.

individuals that hide assets overseas from the Internal Revenue Service.

I am always looking to extend tax relief to New Jersey families. This bill does that in a fiscally responsible way.

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EARMARK DECLARATION

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**HON. HAROLD ROGERS**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 10, 2009*

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the House Republican standards on congressionally-directed funding, I am submitting the following information regarding funding included in H.R. 3288, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2010.

Requesting Member: Congressman HAROLD ROGERS

Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: Housing and Urban Development—Economic Development Initiatives (EDI)  
Legal Name of Recipient: Appalachia Service Project

Address of Recipient: 216 Green Hill Drive, Chavies, KY 41727

Description of Request: Provides directed funding of \$460,000 to the Appalachia Service Project (ASP) in Chavies, Ky. ASP is a volunteer-based organization that works to build and repair homes for underprivileged people in the Appalachian region. In rural counties of Kentucky, significant poverty often prevents families from maintaining access to basic services like water and sewer and performing regular home maintenance. Since 1969, ASP has provided critical repairs to 13,000 homes in Central Appalachia and life-changing volunteer experiences to over 240,000 people. In 2008, the economic impact of ASP's activities across Kentucky was \$3.15 million, and ASP will combine this FY10 funding with private contributions to provide emergency home repairs for disadvantaged families in rural Kentucky.

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CONGRATULATING ALIVIANE,  
INC.'S 40TH ANNIVERSARY

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**HON. SILVESTRE REYES**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 10, 2009*

Mr. REYES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Aliviane, Inc., as they celebrate their 40th anniversary. Based in my congressional district of El Paso, Texas, Aliviane is the largest and oldest drug abuse prevention, intervention, and treatment provider in the West Texas region.

Established in 1969, Aliviane provides a critical service to our community. Over the past 40 years, the organization has grown and now operates several licensed facilities that assist clients and their families with intensive residential treatment and supportive outpatient services. Aliviane's use of cutting-edge services and techniques has allowed the organization to meet the unique needs of its clients. Today, in large part because of Aliviane's pioneering efforts and commitment, behavioral health has become an essential part of primary health care in our country.

Aliviane has developed programs that have become national and international models and

have been used to further advance the behavioral health field. In the 1980s, Aliviane created the first nationally recognized program designed to keep a mother and her child together during treatment. This program has been recognized as a national model by the Office of National Drug Control Policy. In addition, Aliviane has developed the only behavioral health trauma unit in West Texas.

I commend Aliviane for their continued leadership in the behavioral health field and their dedication to further improving the national and international standards for behavioral health care. The hard working employees of Aliviane provide invaluable services within our community and it is with deep gratitude that I applaud their accomplishments.

#### RECOGNIZING LOUISE JOHNSON

#### HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 10, 2009

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate and congratulate Louise Johnson on the occasion of her 100th birthday on December 24th, 2009.

Louise was born in Esmund, South Dakota in 1909. While growing up in South Dakota, she met and married Lars Vierson Teigland, and the two moved to Iowa in 1939, happily raising two sons, Lowell and Owen, who later served in the U.S. Army. After Lars passed away she married Haakin Johnson, who she also spent many happy years with.

Louise has lived on and managed the family farm in Emmetsburg, Iowa for forty-four years until November of this year when she moved to Lakeside Nursing Home. She's enjoyed being a member of the Emmetsburg flower club, collecting dolls, making corn husk dolls and being passionate about politics.

There have been many changes that have occurred during the past one hundred years. Since Louise's birth we have revolutionized air travel and walked on the moon. We have invented the television and the Internet. We have fought in wars overseas, seen the rise and fall of Soviet communism and the birth of new democracies. Louise has also seen the leadership of eighteen United States Presidents and twenty-three Governors of Iowa. In her lifetime the population of the United States has more than tripled.

I congratulate Louise Johnson for reaching this milestone of a birthday. I am extremely honored to represent Louise in Congress and I wish her happiness and health in her future years.

#### EARMARK DECLARATION

#### HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 10, 2009

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the House Republican standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding funding for Delaware included as part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2010, H.R. 3288.

DIVISION A—TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

Name of Project: C & D Canal Trail Improvements

Requesting Member: MICHAEL N. CASTLE

Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: Federal Lands (Public Lands Highways)

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Address of Requesting Entity: Wanamaker Building, 100 Penn Square East, Philadelphia, PA 19107

Description of Request: \$1,000,000 to transform over 13 miles of existing Army Corps service road on the north side of the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal—from Delaware City to Chesapeake City—into a multi-purpose recreation trail with associated amenities (trail heads, signage, and self-composting restroom facilities, and security). Creating a multi-purpose recreation trail on the existing service road would ensure a safer area for the residents of Delaware City (one of the fastest growing areas in the state of Delaware), Chesapeake City, and everywhere in between, to continue to enjoy the Canal.

Name of Project: Turnpike Improvement Project: SR-1 & I-95

Requesting Member: MICHAEL N. CASTLE

Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: Interstate Maintenance Discretionary

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: State of Delaware Department of Transportation

Address of Requesting Entity: 800 Bay Road, P.O. Box 778, Dover, DE 19903

Description of Request: \$2,018,000 to improve the safety and efficiency of two major routes along the Northeast Corridor. It consists of three phases designed to improve the movement and safety of interstate, regional and local traffic through this heavily traveled intersection. The three phases include: a redesign of the I-95/SR-1 interchange, adding a fifth lane to I-95, and reconfiguring the I-95 toll plaza in Newark, DE, to incorporate Highway Speed E-ZPass toll lanes. This project is anticipated to reduce traffic congestion and improve overall safety.

Name of Project: Indian River Inlet Bridge

Requesting Member: MICHAEL N. CASTLE

Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: Surface Transportation Priorities

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: State of Delaware Department of Transportation

Address of Requesting Entity: 800 Bay Road, P.O. Box 778, Dover, DE 19903

Description of Request: \$779,200 for the construction of a new bridge along State Route 1 over the Indian River Inlet. The replacement bridge will alleviate the safety risk caused by the present scour conditions at the foundations. The new structure will completely span the inlet with all foundation members constructed on dry land. The proposed alignment will be west of the existing bridge at a critical evacuation route in the event of natural disasters.

Name of Project: 40' Fixed Route Transit Buses

Requesting Member: MICHAEL N. CASTLE

Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: Buses & Bus Facilities

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: State of Delaware Department of Transportation

Address of Requesting Entity: 800 Bay Road, P.O. Box 778, Dover, DE 19903

Description of Request: \$974,000 to replace fixed route transit coaches which were purchased in 1996. This is part of a comprehensive bus replacement schedule to ensure safe and efficient transportation equipment is used for fixed route services. The project will enable the Delaware Transit Corporation to continue to provide a high level of service to Delaware residents. DTC provides 10 million passenger trips annually with 14.9 million service miles and serves all three counties.

Name of Project: Automotive-Based Fuel Cell Hybrid Bus Program

Requesting Member: MICHAEL N. CASTLE

Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: Buses & Bus Facilities

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: University of Delaware

Address of Requesting Entity: Hulihan Hall, Newark, DE 19716

Description of Request: \$487,000 for a program to research, build and demonstrate fuel cell hybrid buses on the UD campus and in the state of Delaware. The objective is for the project's efficient and uniquely low-cost design of fuel cell transit buses to spur commercialization of this technology which will help reduce our nation's dependence on foreign oil and enable the U.S. to meet its goal of greenhouse gases reductions.

Name of Project: Wilmington to Newark Commuter Rail Improvement Program

Requesting Member: MICHAEL N. CASTLE

Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: Capital Investment Grants

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: State of Delaware Department of Transportation

Address of Requesting Entity: 800 Bay Road, P.O. Box 778, Dover, DE 19903

Description of Request: \$3,000,000 to install a third commuter rail track along the northeast corridor, build a new Newark Rail Station, and purchase four commuter rail cars. This program expands capacity to permit expansion of commuter rail services and increases reliability of intercity and commuter rail services. It will also assist in significantly reducing traffic congestion along the northeast corridor.

Name of Project: Remediation and Reuse of Reclaimed Port Land

Requesting Member: MICHAEL N. CASTLE

Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: Surface Transportation Priorities

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Diamond State Port Corporation

Address of Requesting Entity: 1 Hausel Rd, Wilmington, DE 19801

Description of Request: \$730,500 for the excavation and removal of decaying organic material and other debris left by a previous industrial activity, backfilling, surcharging and paving this 5 acre site for future cargo operations. Approximately 5 acres of Port land in close proximity to the wharf area is currently unavailable for cargo operations as a result of unstable substrate conditions that preclude working with heavy marine cargo in this area.

Name of Project: Delaware Children's Museum

Requesting Member: MICHAEL N. CASTLE

Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: Economic Development Initiatives

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: The Delaware Children's Museum, Inc.

Address of Requesting Entity: 110 South Poplar Street, Suite 103, Wilmington, DE 19801

Description of Request: \$194,800 for renovations to the existing buildings in Wilmington and the construction of exhibits to create Delaware's first children's museum. This will assist in revitalizing the Christina Riverfront area.

Name of Project: First Steps Primeros Pasos

Requesting Member: MICHAEL N. CASTLE  
Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: Economic Development Initiatives  
Legal Name of Requesting Entity: First Steps Primeros Pasos

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 1003, Georgetown, DE 19947

Description of Request: \$194,800 to support the construction and start-up costs for a bilingual early care facility designed to help children of non-English speaking families develop the language and skills needed to be successful when they reach kindergarten. This will benefit Georgetown, Delaware, and its growing Hispanic community. Upon opening, the center will serve 60 children.

Name of Project: Ministry of Caring

Requesting Member: MICHAEL N. CASTLE  
Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: Economic Development Initiatives  
Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Ministry of Caring

Address of Requesting Entity: 506 N. Church Street, Wilmington, DE 19801

Description of Request: \$194,800 to renovate the Josephine Bakhita House to serve as residence for young adults committed to social responsibility and giving back to the community through one or two years of volunteer service of working within the Ministry of Caring's network of 18 programs to serve the poor and the homeless. This is an invaluable way to gain job experience. This project not only promotes volunteerism, but will also assist those in need in Delaware.

Name of Project: Food Bank of Delaware

Requesting Member: MICHAEL N. CASTLE  
Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: Economic Development Initiatives  
Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Food Bank of Delaware

Address of Requesting Entity: 14 Garfield Way, Newark, DE 19713

Description of Request: \$194,800 to expand the Milford facility to meet the needs of Kent and Sussex Counties. Expansion will include a full service kitchen to serve hot meals to those in need, a volunteer room for recruiting and meetings, a culinary school to provide job training for the unemployed, and more office space so that more jobs can be created.

DIVISION B—COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE AND RELATED AGENCIES

Name of Project: Carvel State Building Video Surveillance Project

Requesting Member: Congressman MICHAEL N. CASTLE

Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: DOJ—COPS Technology

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Delaware Capitol Police

Address of Requesting Entity: 150 William Penn Street, Dover, DE 19901

Description of Request: \$75,000 to purchase and install digital video cameras and head end capturing and recording equipment at the Carvel State Building that houses the Governor's office, Lt. Governor's office, General Assembly offices, Supreme Court, Attorney General's office and numerous other state agencies. The purpose of this project is to en-

hance the Capitol Police ability to monitor, capture and retrieve video surveillance of the state facility to protect its occupants.

Name of Project: Chesapeake Bay Interpretive Buoy System

Requesting Member: Congressman MICHAEL N. CASTLE

Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: NOAA—National Weather Service Operations, Research and Facilities

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Chesapeake Bay Office

Address of Requesting Entity: 410 Severn Avenue, Annapolis, MD 21403

Description of Request: \$500,000 to be used by NOAA to purchase, deploy, and operate a buoy and sensors on the Nanticoke River in Delaware, which is the largest Chesapeake Bay tributary on the Delmarva Peninsula, and is identified by NOAA as a priority location for the Chesapeake Bay Interpretive Buoy System (CBIBS). The purpose of this project is to provide real-time data and interpretation to further protect, restore, and manage the Chesapeake Bay.

Name of Project: Delaware River Enhanced Flood Warning System

Requesting Member: Congressman MICHAEL N. CASTLE

Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: NOAA—National Weather Service Operations, Research and Facilities

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Delaware River Basin Commission

Address of Requesting Entity: 125 State Police Drive, Trenton, NJ 08628

Description of Request: \$200,000 for enhancements to the Delaware River Basin's flood warning system, including: (1) upgrades to the existing precipitation and stream gage network, (2) improvement of flash flood forecasting capabilities, (3) flood warning education and outreach, and (4) support of flood coordination. Following three Delaware River main stem floods, the continued development of an enhanced basinwide flood warning system is critical for ensuring that the existing flood warning system is adequately maintained and that technological advancements are continued.

Name of Project: Functional Family Therapy for At-Risk Youth (DE Girls Wraparound)

Requesting Member: Congressman MICHAEL N. CASTLE

Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: DOJ—OJP—Juvenile Justice

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Children and Families First Delaware

Address of Requesting Entity: 2005 Baynard Blvd., Wilmington, DE 19802

Description of Request: \$350,000 for supplies and salaries needed to provide intensive community-based counseling and case management to youth ages 10–18 and their families in all three counties in Delaware. The purpose of the project is to improve family relationships, increases parent engagement, improves school attendance, and reduces involvement in the juvenile justice system and recidivism so that youth succeed.

Name of Project: In-Car Camera System for Delaware State Policy Patrol Cars

Requesting Member: Congressman MICHAEL N. CASTLE

Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: DOJ—COPS Technology

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Delaware State Police

Address of Requesting Entity: 1441 N. DuPont Highway Dover, DE 19903

Description of Request: \$1,500,000 to purchase 350 digital in-car cameras for patrol fleet and centralized digital storage devices. The purpose of this project is to provide valuable evidentiary information in both criminal and civil processes.

Name of Project: Jobs for Delaware Graduates, Expand Available Services

Requesting Member: Congressman MICHAEL N. CASTLE

Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: DOJ—OJP—Juvenile Justice

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Jobs for Delaware's Graduates, Inc.

Address of Requesting Entity: 381 W. North Street Dover, DE 19904

Description of Request: \$1,000,000 to expand Jobs for Delaware Graduates (JDG) programs to 1,320 additional "at-risk" students in Middle School and High School for the purpose of increasing school graduation rates.

Name of Project: Mentoring Initiatives for At-Risk Children and Youth

Requesting Member: Congressman MICHAEL N. CASTLE

Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: DOJ—OJP—Juvenile Justice

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Delaware Mentoring Council

Address of Requesting Entity: Delaware Mentoring Council, University of Delaware, Newark, DE 19716

Description of Request: \$750,000 to create stable mentoring programs in at least four school districts and ten schools throughout Delaware, with at least five schools in the city of Wilmington. The purpose of the project is to provide stability in the lives of at-risk youth, those living in poverty, and those facing substance abuse in their family, incarcerated parents, or even homelessness.

Name of Project: New Castle County Courthouse Capitol Police Command Center and Lobby Surveillance Project

Requesting Member: Congressman MICHAEL N. CASTLE

Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: DOJ—COPS Technology

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: State of Delaware Capitol Police

Address of Requesting Entity: 150 William Penn Street, Dover, DE 19901

Description of Request: \$130,000 to be used to upgrade surveillance and purchase a system to coordinate dispatch operations within the Capitol Police Command Center of the New Castle County Courthouse to protect the 1 million people per year that pass through the courthouse.

Name of Project: Police Weapons Range Improvements

Requesting Member: Congressman MICHAEL N. CASTLE

Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: DOJ—COPS Technology

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Wilmington Department of Police

Address of Requesting Entity: 300 N. Walnut Street, Wilmington, DE 19801–3973

Description of Request: \$400,000 for mandatory improvements to the weapons range due to safety and environmental concerns, so that it can continue to be utilized for firearms training by multiple local, state, and federal agencies.

Name of Project: Survival Equipment for Delaware State Police



Requesting Member: Congressman MICHAEL N. CASTLE  
 Bill Number: H.R. 3288  
 Account: DOJ—COPS Technology  
 Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Delaware State Police

Address of Requesting Entity: 1441 N. DuPont Highway Dover, DE 19903

Description of Request: \$125,000 to purchase equipment (30 shotguns, 30 handguns, and 150 vests) for the purpose of ensuring the safety and effectiveness of the officers providing law enforcement and the citizens they protect.

DIVISION C—FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

Name of Project: University of Delaware, Newark, DE, for the Delaware Small Business and Technology Development Center

Requesting Member: Congressman MICHAEL N. CASTLE

Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: Small Business Administration—Salaries and Expenses

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: University of Delaware

Address of Requesting Entity: University of Delaware, Hullen Hall, Newark, DE 19716

Description of Request: \$350,000 to be used for training and consulting at the Delaware Small Business Development Center to enhance technology-based economic development in Delaware.

Name of Project: World Trade Center Institute Delaware, for the export assistance webinar series for business education, Wilmington, DE

Requesting Member: Congressman MICHAEL N. CASTLE—

Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: Small Business Administration—Salaries and Expenses

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: World Trade Center Institute of Delaware

Address of Requesting Entity: 702 West Street Wilmington, DE 19801

Description of Request: \$50,000 to produce webinars, or live web streaming of business seminars, at the World Trade Center Institute of Delaware. The purpose of the project is to make the information available to broad ranges of businesses and individuals.

DIVISION D—DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

Name of Project: Beebe Medical Center, Lewes, DE, for facilities and equipment

Requesting Member: MICHAEL N. CASTLE—

Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: Department of Health & Human Services, HRSA, Health Facilities and Services

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Beebe Medical Center

Address of Requesting Entity: 424 Savannah Rd., Lewes, DE 19958

Description of Request: \$100,000 to construct a new 2-story School of Nursing building. The purpose of the project is to double Beebe's nursing enrollment to 120 students and train an additional 60 nurses to care for patients in Delaware and Delmarva.

Name of Project: Delaware Department of Education, Dover, DE for a school leadership initiative

Requesting Member: MICHAEL N. CASTLE

Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: Department of Education Elementary & Secondary Education

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Delaware Department of Education

Address of Requesting Entity: 401 Federal Street, Suite 2, Dover, DE 19901

Description of Request: \$250,000 to train, mentor, and coach superintendents, principals, and other leaders within the Vision 2015 Network to sharpen their focus on data and realign their time and resources to maximize student achievement.

Name of Project: Delaware Department of Technology and Information, Dover, DE to improve Internet access to Delaware schools, including the purchase of equipment

Requesting Member: MICHAEL N. CASTLE

Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: Department of Education Elementary & Secondary Education

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Delaware Department of Technology and Information

Address of Requesting Entity: Department of Technology and Information

Description of Request: \$100,000 for the purchase of equipment as well as the purchase of ancillary devices needed for computing operations in nearly 200 public school buildings throughout Delaware.

Name of Project: East Side Community Learning Center Foundation, Wilmington, DE, to support supplemental education and enrichment programs for high-need students

Requesting Member: MICHAEL N. CASTLE—

Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: Department of Education Elementary & Secondary Education

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: EastSide Community Learning Center Foundation

Address of Requesting Entity: 3000 N. Claymont Street, Wilmington, DE 19806

Description of Request: \$100,000 for supplemental educational and enrichment programs at East Side Charter School to ensure their students succeed in school, work, and society.

Name of Project: FAME, Inc., Wilmington, DE, to prepare minority students for college and encourage them to pursue careers in science, engineering, and math

Requesting Member: MICHAEL N. CASTLE

Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: Department of Education Elementary & Secondary Education

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Forum to Advance Minorities in Engineering, Inc. (FAME, Inc.)

Address of Requesting Entity: 100 W. 10th Street, Suite 409, Wilmington, DE 19801

Description of Request: \$125,000 to prepare minority students for college—concentrating in STEM and business education.

Name of Project: Nanticoke Senior Center, Seaford, DE, for facilities and equipment

Requesting Member: MICHAEL N. CASTLE—

Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: Department of Health & Human Services, HRSA, Health Facilities and Services

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Nanticoke Senior Center

Address of Requesting Entity: 301 N. Virginia Avenue, Seaford, DE 19973

Description of Request: \$100,000 for the construction of new, 11,053 square foot Senior Services Center in the heart of Seaford, Delaware. The purpose of this project is to help provide a new approach to serving older adults through the expansion of services.

Name of Project: Nemours/Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children, Wilmington, DE, for facilities and equipment

Requesting Member: MICHAEL N. CASTLE—  
 Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: Department of Health & Human Services, HRSA, Health Facilities and Services

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Nemours/Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children

Address of Requesting Entity: 1600 Rockland Road, P.O. Box 269, Wilmington, DE 19899

Description of Request: \$350,000 for capital improvements by Nemours/Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children. The purpose of this project is to upgrade and expand the only children's hospital in Delaware, which also serves children from all over the U.S. and world who seek highly specialized services, in order to strengthen its ability to continue providing outstanding patient care.

Name of Project: Rodel Foundation of Delaware, Wilmington, DE, for the Delaware Parent Leadership Institute

Requesting Member: MICHAEL N. CASTLE

Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: Department of Education Elementary & Secondary Education

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Rodel Foundation of Delaware

Address of Requesting Entity: 100 W. 10th Street, Suite 704, Wilmington, DE 19801

Description of Request: \$150,000 to expand leadership training for parents of Delaware public school students on how to advocate effectively for their children's education and partner effectively with their children's schools.

Name of Project: St. Francis Hospital Foundation, Wilmington, DE, for facilities and equipment

Requesting Member: MICHAEL N. CASTLE

Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: Department of Health & Human Services, HRSA, Health Facilities and Services

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: St. Francis Hospital Foundation

Address of Requesting Entity: 701 North Clayton Street, Wilmington, DE 19805

Description of Request: \$175,000 to make urgently needed capital infrastructure improvements to St. Francis Hospital. The purpose of this project is to help St. Francis in its continued care of the community's uninsured.

Name of Project: Wesley College, Dover, DE, for renovation and equipping of the nursing school

Requesting Member: MICHAEL N. CASTLE

Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: Department of Health & Human Services, HRSA, Health Facilities and Services

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Wesley College—

Address of Requesting Entity: 120 North State Street, Dover, DE 19901

Description of Request: \$200,000 to construct a 22,000 square-foot nursing facility or renovate an existing building. The purpose of this project is to enable Wesley College to increase the number of qualified nursing graduates to address the national, regional and statewide shortage of nurses.

DIVISION E—MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

Name of Project: C-5 Cargo Aircraft Maintenance Training Facility, Phase 1

Requesting Member: MICHAEL N. CASTLE—

Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: Air Force  
 Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Dover Air Force Base  
 Address of Requesting Entity: Dover, DE  
 Description of Request: \$5,300,000 to provide new training facility with tools and classrooms to furnish specialized hands-on instruction for C-17 and C-5M engine maintenance.  
 Name of Project: Consolidated Communications Facility

Requesting Member: MICHAEL N. CASTLE—  
 Bill Number: H.R. 3288  
 Account: Air Force  
 Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Dover Air Force Base

Address of Requesting Entity: Dover, DE  
 Description of Request: \$12,100,000 to construct a consolidated communications facility at Dover AFB. Currently, a comprehensive, integrated communications system is impeded by the fragmented location of related communications functions. Consolidating these functions into one hardened facility will improve manpower efficiency by approximately 25 percent. Consolidation and demolition of the old facilities will result in approximately \$17,000 in annual energy savings.

Name of Project: Chapel Center  
 Requesting Member: MICHAEL N. CASTLE—  
 Bill Number: H.R. 3288  
 Account: Air Force  
 Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Dover Air Force Base

Address of Requesting Entity: Dover, DE  
 Description of Request: \$7,500,000 to construct a new chapel center at Dover AFB. The current Dover AFB chapel center is an undersized, structurally substandard facility. A chapel is needed in proximity of dormitory residents because many single Airmen do not own transportation and the other base chapel is 20 minutes from the main base by foot. Airmen who work at the Port Mortuary would also utilize the new facility. An improved chapel is required to host families who come to the base to receive our fallen heroes. A new chapel center is needed to meet diverse worship, fellowship, and counseling needs of Dover AFB.

#### SUPPORT OUR BORDER COMMUNITIES

#### HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 10, 2009*

Mr. FILNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce H.R. 4251, legislation to include certain Department of Homeland Security facilities, such as ports of entry, under the Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) program.

Since 1976, communities have received payments from the Interior Department's PILT program to help offset losses in property taxes due to nontaxable Federal lands administered by the BLM, the National Park Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the U.S. Forest Service.

However, all along our Border, communities are not reimbursed for land that the Department of Homeland Security uses for ports of entry. The community often provides resources and services to these facilities without reimbursement from the government. My bill, H.R. 4251 provides support for these communities.

H.R. 4251 amends existing law to include certain Department of Homeland Security facilities, such as ports of entry, under the PILT program. Providing access to these payments will help these communities with the important work they provide along our borders.

#### EARMARK DECLARATION

#### HON. CHARLES W. DENT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 10, 2009*

Mr. DENT. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the House Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding projects that are listed in H.R. 3288, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, FY2010:

Bill Number: H.R. 3288, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, FY2010

Account: Division B—Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies—NASA, CAS  
 Title: Nanomaterials Research

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Lehigh University

Address of Requesting Entity: 5 East Packer Avenue, Bethlehem, PA 18015

Description of Request: This funding will be used to advance the partnership between Lehigh University, the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC), U.S. Army ARDEC, and industry partners in Pennsylvania, Maryland, New Jersey, and Delaware. The purpose of the partnership is the development, characterization, and application of engineered nanomaterials and devices for NASA space missions and aeronautical applications.

Bill Number: H.R. 3288, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, FY2010

Account: Division D—Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies—Department of Education, Higher Education (FIPSE)

Title: Civic Engagement and Service Learning Program

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Muhlenberg College

Address of Requesting Entity: 2400 W. Chew Street, Allentown, PA 18104

Description of Request: This funding will be used to expand civic engagement and undergraduate service learning by leveraging Muhlenberg College resources to address issues related to health, housing, economic development and urban education to serve approximately 700 local residents.

#### EARMARK DECLARATION

#### HON. J. RANDY FORBES

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 10, 2009*

Mr. FORBES. Madam Speaker, I am submitting the following information regarding an earmark I received as part of H.R. 3288, Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2010.

Requesting Member: J. RANDY FORBES

Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: Commerce—Justice—Science

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Suffolk Police Department

Address of Requesting Entity: 120 Henley Place, Suffolk, VA 23434

Description of Request: Provides \$70,000 for the Suffolk Police Department Technology Enhancement Initiative within the COPS Technology Program.

#### HONORING THE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF PEORIA

#### HON. AARON SCHOCK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 10, 2009*

Mr. SCHOCK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the First United Methodist Church of Peoria. For 17 years First United Methodist has partnered with Irving Primary School to present a variety of services to students from low income families. Bear Buddy Ministry volunteers provide reading and tutoring services to Irving 250 students in second, third, fourth and fifth grade. Bear Buddy Ministry volunteers visit Irving weekly and serve over half of the 353 students who attend Irving.

First United Methodist sponsors a Fine Arts Ministry which partners Irving students with artists from Bradley University and the Peoria Art Guild so Irving students can have a chance to participate in artistic opportunities using visual arts, pottery, writing and photography resources.

The Community Ministry also supports a children's choir which has grown to 52 members in recent years. First United Methodist transports the young vocalists to all of their concerts and civic engagements, including performances at Peoria City Council meetings.

First United Methodist proudly backs a soccer program in Morton, Illinois for Irving students which lasts six to eight weeks. The soccer program gives students proper exercise and shows them the importance of teamwork. First United Methodist members have also built two Habitat for Humanity homes for families of Irving School students. These successes have led First United Methodist to explore future partnerships with Lincoln Middle School and the Peoria Alternative High School. The First United Methodist Church-Irving Primary School partnership is a model relationship which works together to provide a better future for the children of Peoria District 150. I congratulate First United Methodist Church of Peoria for 17 years of quality ministry to the students and families of Irving Primary School. I look forward to many more years of this great partnership which furthers the education of our students. Thank you and I yield back the balance of my time.

#### A TRIBUTE TO GRETCHEN PUSCH

#### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS-

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 10, 2009*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Gretchen Pusch.

Flutist Gretchen Pusch made her Carnegie Recital Hall debut as winner of the Artist International Competition. She has appeared frequently in recitals and as concerto soloist in North America, Europe and Asia. A member of the Dorian Wind Quintet, she has also collaborated in chamber music concerts with Peter



Schickele, Anthony Newman, Maxence Larrieu and Paula Robison, among others. Ms. Pusch has performed with the American Symphony, American Composers Orchestra, Brooklyn Philharmonic, New Jersey Symphony and Philharmonia Virtuosi.

Ms. Pusch has been heard on radio, television and recordings for Composers Recording Inc., Panasonic, Summit, Innova, Mode and Windham Hill. Formerly on the faculty of Rutgers University, Ms. Pusch currently serves on the flute faculty of the Juilliard School's Music Advancement Program and the International Festival Institute at Round Top and is a teaching artist for The Academy (a joint program of Carnegie Hall, the Juilliard School and the Weill Music Institute). She is a graduate of Boston University and studied with Julius Baker, James Pappoutsakis and Keith Underwood.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Gretchen Pusch.

## WALL STREET REFORM AND CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

**HON. CHAKA FATTAH**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2009*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration of the bill (H.R. 4173) to provide for financial regulatory reform, to protect consumers and investors, to enhance Federal understanding of insurance issues, to regulate the over-the-counter derivatives markets, and for other purposes:

Mr. FATTAH. Madam Chair, I rise in strong support of H.R. 4173, the Wall Street and Consumer Protect Act of 2009. The bill proposes to address the financial crisis brought on by the financial industry by crafting a comprehensive set of measures that will modernize America's financial regulations and hold Wall Street accountable. A myriad of issues, from predatory lending to unregulated derivatives, are contained in the bill to prevent conditions that led to last year's financial meltdown.

The legislation being considered today outlaws many of the egregious industry practices that marked the subprime lending boom, and it would ensure that mortgage lenders make loans that benefit the consumer. H.R. 4173 establishes a simple standard for all home loans, mandating that institutions must ensure borrowers have the ability to the loans they are sold. In addition, the bill prohibits the financial incentives for subprime loans that encourage lenders to steer borrowers into more costly loans, including the bonuses known as "yield spread premiums," which lenders pay to brokers to inflate the cost of loans. Many homeowners in the current mortgage crisis received were steered into more expensive loans than they qualified for. The bill limits the prepayment penalties charged to borrowers who wish to get out of their loans and refinance on more affordable terms.

Implementing laws to correct the failures that led to the economic conditions that created the worse financial crisis since the Great Depression is important in ensuring the ensuing calamity that transpired after the collapse

of the financial markets. Nevertheless, the Chairman's inclusion of a mortgage foreclosure assistance provision in the Chairman's Manager's Amendment brings to light one of the least discussed causalities of the financial disaster. Many homeowners now find they are unable to meet their financial obligations due to the severe recession caused by the unbridled greed and recklessness of many financial services institutions.

On numerous occasions, President Obama declared the road to recovery must begin with correcting the damaged housing market by providing people the tools necessary to keep their homes and prevent foreclosure. According to a recently released report by RealtyTrac, a realty company that maintains a comprehensive national database of pre-foreclosure and foreclosure properties, nearly 400,000 properties received foreclosure filing in August 2009. Though number of filings decreased less than one percent from the previous month, the overall number of foreclosure filings is nearly 18 percent higher than the previous year. More strikingly, the report also indicates 1 in every 357 properties used for housing are under threat of foreclosure.

Although not all homes in the foreclosure process will end in a foreclosure completion, an increase in the number of loans in the foreclosure process is generally accompanied by an increase in the number of homes on which a foreclosure is completed. According to the Mortgage Bankers Association, about 1 percent of all home loans were in the foreclosure process in the second quarter of 2006. By the second quarter of 2009, the rate had quadrupled to over 4 percent.

Traditionally, housing is considered a relatively safe investment that allows for the possibility for a high rate of return. Rapidly rising home prices reinforced supported this view. During the rapid of expansion of housing in the early part of this decade, many people decided to buy homes or take out second mortgages in order to access their increasing home equity. Furthermore, rising home prices and low interest rates contributed to a sharp increase in people refinancing their mortgages. For example, between 2000 and 2003, the number of refinanced mortgage loans jumped from 2.5 million to over 15 million. In 2006 and 2007, the value of housing dropped precipitously, which triggered an unexpected increase in the number of homeowners that were delinquent on their mortgages payments and facing foreclosure.

Mortgage foreclosures are very costly to both the foreclosed homeowner and the mortgage lender. Lenders suffer revenue losses from uncollected interest on delinquent loans, as well as unrecoverable origination costs and fees. Though loans that are insured under the Federal Housing Act mitigates losses to lenders to a certain extent, foreclosures cost the lending industry approximately \$32,000 for every home that is in foreclosure proceedings since foreclosed properties are often sold below market value.

Losing a home to foreclosure can have a number of negative effects on a household. For many families, losing a home means losing the household's largest store of wealth. Furthermore, foreclosure can negatively impact a borrower's creditworthiness, making it more difficult for him or her to buy a home in the future. Finally, losing a home to foreclosure can also mean that a household loses

many of the less tangible benefits of owning a home. Research has shown that these benefits include increased civic engagement that results from having a stake in the community, and better health, school, and behavioral outcomes for children.

In addition, many homeowners experience difficulty finding a place to live after losing their home to foreclosure. Many will become renters. Nevertheless, some landlords may be unwilling to rent to families whose credit has been damaged by a foreclosure, limiting the options open to these families. There can also be spillover effects from foreclosure on current renters. Renters living in units facing foreclosure may be required to move, even if they are current on their rent payments. As more homeowners become renters and as more current renters are displaced when their landlords face foreclosure, pressure on local rental markets may increase, and more families may have difficulty finding affordable rental housing. Some observers have also raised the concern that a large increase in foreclosures could increase homelessness, either because families who lost their homes have trouble finding new places to live or because the increased demand for rental housing makes it more difficult for families to find adequate, affordable units.

A concentration of foreclosures will negatively impacts communities, not just homeowners facing foreclosure. Many foreclosures in a single neighborhood may depress surrounding home values. If foreclosed homes stand vacant for long periods of time, they can attract crime and blight, especially if they are not well-maintained. Concentrated foreclosures also place pressure on local governments, which can lose property tax revenue and may have to step in to maintain vacant foreclosed properties.

Unforeseen events can happen to all people, in all communities. Unexpected medical expenses, sudden unemployment, and divorce are only some of the myriad of unforeseen circumstances that can create financial instability for hardworking homeowners. Such hardships are frequently cited as significant contributing factors that hinder a homeowner's ability to maintain timely mortgage payments, ultimately resulting in dramatically higher rates of mortgage foreclosure. Homeowners in America face the added pressure of simultaneously handling the financial burdens of unforeseen events and their mortgage obligations.

Making Home Affordable, the new Obama plan which requires lenders to modify mortgages, is a good idea that is off to a slow start as lenders have yet to gear up for or aggressively seek modifications to those eligible. Foreclosures caused by unemployment are becoming a greater and greater portion of the foreclosure problem. Estimates are that 5.5 million homes will enter foreclosure in 2009 and 2010.

In Pennsylvania, a major state initiative to combat family-devastating foreclosures has been operating with success for more than a quarter-century, enacted in the wake of the severe recession of 1983. The Homeowners Emergency Mortgage Assistance Program (HEMAP) has provided loans to over 43,000 homeowners since 1984 at a cost to the Keystone State of \$236 million. Assisted homeowners have repaid \$246 million to date which works out to a \$10 million profit for the state after 25 years of helping families keep their homes.

The Pennsylvania model will work nationally, and that is why I introduced H.R. 3142, the Homeowners Emergency Mortgage Assistance (HEMA) Act, which is pending before the House Financial Services Committee. HEMA establishes an emergency mortgage assistance program for qualifying homeowners who are temporarily unable to meet their obligations due to financial hardship beyond their control. Under HEMA, homeowners would have the opportunity to regain financial stability without the immediate pressure of foreclosure. With the support of Chairman BARNEY FRANK of the Committee on Financial Services and Subcommittee Chairwoman MAXINE WATERS, the HEMA proposal was incorporated into H.R. 3766, the Main Street TARP Act. The Main Street TARP Act proposes to use unspent TARP funds to provide relief for distressed homeowners who are unable to meet their mortgage obligations due to financial hardship, as well as providing assistance to renters seeking affordable housing.

A national HEMA program offers a workable complement to President Obama's new Making Home Affordable program. Making Home Affordable has allocated \$75 billion in TARP funds to provide financial incentives to encourage participation by mortgage servicers and homeowners. Although the Treasury Department is taking steps to increase the effectiveness of Making Home Affordable by pressing mortgage servicers to put additional resources and staff into providing loan modifications that make mortgages affordable for homeowners, the scale of the problem is huge and the ability and willingness of servicers to do the work necessary is in question. The loss of six million US jobs since the start of the recession complicates the crisis as many jobless won't even have enough income for a loan modification to be effective.

A HEMA-style loan program could use TARP funds already allocated for foreclosure prevention to directly cure mortgage defaults for the unemployed. As the economy recovers most jobless workers will get back to work and be able to resume their mortgage payments. Even a portion of the \$75 billion set aside for Making Home Affordable could pay a lot of mortgage payments to bring homeowners current and not have them at the mercy of a mortgage servicer who is poorly equipped to offer them help.

Such a program could be run much more efficiently than the time consuming loan modification program. A homeowner who indicated that he or she was unemployed would provide verification of unemployment compensation to the servicer and automatically be approved for a loan that would pay any mortgage above 31 percent of their income (the target amount in Making Home Affordable modifications). The Treasury could make payments for the homeowner who is then current on the mortgage. It would cut through the disorder of the loan modification program and slow the numbers of foreclosed properties on the market.

The success of HEMAP is evident in the program's results. Since its inception, 42,700 families were saved from foreclosure by providing over \$442 million in loans to at-risk homeowners. The average loan to a distressed homeowner is \$10,500, which is much less than the \$35,000 it costs to complete most foreclosure actions. Additionally, this es-

timated average foreclosure cost does not consider the impact of foreclosures on families, neighborhoods and communities.

We have tried everything else. The Treasury has already allocated far more than \$2 billion to prevent foreclosures. It seems likely that many of those dollars will not be spent in a timely manner by mortgage servicers modifying loans. It's time to get people's mortgages paid directly and to slow the pace of home losses that are destroying families and crippling our overall economy. It's time to think outside the box about foreclosures—and way past time to keep Americans inside their homes.

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IN MEMORY OF LT. COL. GEORGE  
WITHERS STIER

**HON. IKE SKELTON**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 10, 2009*

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, it is with sadness that I inform the House of the death of my dear friend Lieutenant Colonel George Withers Stier of Lexington, Missouri.

Stier was born in December of 1919 to Earle Taggart Stier and Grace King Stier. After graduating from Wentworth Military Academy with ROTC training, he volunteered for the Army Reserves and applied for Active Duty in 1941.

During World War II, Stier showed his unyielding courage and love of country while flying the B-17 Flying Fortress. During the last of his 16 bombing missions over Germany, he and his crew were shot down and became prisoners of war at Stalag Luft III. Surviving a 50-mile forced march, Stier and his fellow airmen spent over a year as prisoners of war. On April 20, 1945, he was liberated by General George Patton and his 3rd Army's 14th Tank Battalion.

In 1948, Stier married his lovely wife Kathleen Miller Trumbull. The two returned to his hometown of Lexington, Missouri, where they operated Stier's Clothing Store, a family operation since 1906. A dedicated public servant, he served on the City Council and was president of the local Chamber of Commerce. He maintained his connection to Wentworth Military Academy by teaching business courses to our future servicemen and women.

Preceded in death by his wife Kathleen who sadly passed away in 2004, he is survived by his children, Sheila and George.

Madam Speaker, Lt. Col. George Stier was a courageous airman, a loving husband and father, and a dear friend. I trust that my fellow Members of the House will join me in extending their heartfelt condolences to his two children, family, and friends.

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IN HONOR OF MAURICE A.  
SCHWARTZ

**HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 10, 2009*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Maurice A. Schwartz of Stinson

Beach, California, who will be retiring next month as Executive Director of the Audubon Canyon Ranch (ACR). Skip Schwartz—everyone calls him Skip—a man known for his rare combination of a strong work ethic, empathy, kindness and humor, has been at the helm of ACR for thirty-four years, a time of great growth and accomplishments for the ranch.

Audubon Canyon Ranch was founded in 1962 to preserve a thickly wooded nesting place for great blue herons and great egrets on the shores of Bolinas Lagoon. Skip first saw the ranch as a visitor in the early 70s and later he and his wife became docents. In 1975 he so impressed the ACR's trustees that they hired him as Executive Director. With his commitment, boundless enthusiasm and practical know-how, Skip tackled the tough problems of a young non-profit and succeeded far beyond anyone's expectations.

Today ACR is a financially solid organization with 24 employees and 800 volunteers with exciting environmental education and research programs and preserve holdings in two counties totaling over 2,000 acres, and will be a beneficiary of a gift of another 1,700 acres in the future. ACR now includes the 1,000 acre Bolinas Lagoon Preserve near Stinson Beach; the 535-acre Bouverie Preserve near Glen Ellen in Sonoma County, the Cypress Grove Research Center on Tomales Bay and several other properties in West Marin. Recently an access agreement was signed with Jim and Shirley Modini, whose 1,725-acre Modoni Ranch in Sonoma County has been willed to ACR.

Due largely to Skip's democratic leadership skills, ACR was named this year by the North Bay Business Journal as one of the five best places to work in the North Bay. Employees—whose average length of employment is 11 years—gave Audubon Canyon Ranch the highest marks of the five firms honored. Employees cited ACR's family focus and its commitment to "walking the talk" by making every effort to make the workplace green, including establishing mileage reimbursement for bicycle use during work hours.

Under Skip's leadership, ACR scientific contributions also literally helped put Bolinas Lagoon on the map as a United Nations RAMSAR site of international significance. ACR's conservation science programs have grown to include a Research and Habitat Preservation and Restoration component.

Skip has overseen the creation of a nationally recognized elementary school environmental education program that serves schools throughout the Bay Area at no charge to them or their students. Each year, between 6,000 and 7,000 students from ethnically and economically diverse neighborhoods in four counties participate in ACR's "hands on" environmental education program.

Skip Schwartz, who has been the public face of Audubon Canyon Ranch for over three decades, will step down as Executive Director in January, but he will continue to work part time as a consultant with the organization. It appears that the Directors of Audubon Canyon Ranch know just how big Skip's shoes will be to fill. He leaves a legacy of accomplishment, but at least for some time ACR's Directors, staff and many friends will continue to benefit from his knowledge, enjoy his humor and kindness, and be inspired by his practical idealism.

THE APPROPRIATIONS PACKAGE  
AND AMTRAK

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 10, 2009*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, today, the House will consider the end of year appropriations package. In that package, is a one-page provision that risk undermining nearly a decade of rail security efforts by Amtrak. It requires Amtrak to allow passengers at stations that accept checked baggage to check their guns.

There are those who argue that this is a reasonable provision which would simply grant rail travelers the same opportunities as aviation travelers. These people fundamentally miss the point.

The challenges of securing rail are very different than securing aviation. Airports are controlled environments with screeners, checkpoints and multiple law enforcement agencies, rail stations are not. Airline passengers are watch listed, rail passengers are not. Guns that are checked on planes are stored away from passengers. Under this provision, guns could be "checked" in the same car as the passenger. This provision is bad security of policy and puts Amtrak passengers and staff and anyone else in rail stations at risk.

A TRIBUTE TO REDLANDS CITY  
CLERK LORRIE POYZER FOR 33  
YEARS OF PUBLIC SERVICE

**HON. JERRY LEWIS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 10, 2009*

Mr. LEWIS of California. Madam Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to Redlands City Clerk Lorrie Poyzer, who over the past three decades has established herself as the institutional memory of this Southern California city.

A true native of this San Bernardino County city, Lorrie Poyzer is a Redlands High School graduate and the daughter of Marion H. Poyzer, who was the city's elected Treasurer from 1960 to 1975. Her grandfather and his sister were the first recorded twins born in the city around 1900.

After graduation from Redlands High School and then San Bernardino Valley College, Louie Poyzer worked for seven years as office manager for the Redlands Teachers Association, and seven more as the assistant manager's secretary of the Bank of America Redlands branch.

She went to work in the City Clerk's office in February 1976, shortly after her father retired as city Treasurer. In those days before computers, she had to retype minutes of the City Council meetings three or four times as changes were made. She was appointed deputy clerk within a year.

Her expertise and years of service led to the City Council appointing Lorrie Poyzer acting City Clerk in January 1983, and she was elected to the first of seven consecutive terms in November 2003.

Madam Speaker, as with many growing cities, Redlands has seen its share of changes in leadership. Ms. Poyzer has served with 10

mayors, 29 City Council members and 11 City Managers. She has overseen the accurate recording of minutes for more than 1,000 council meetings.

Under her leadership, Redlands has become known for its incredibly accurate record-keeping. The office has ensured that all former paper records have been transferred to computers, and she is proud to say that her office can find any document—even dating back to the city founding in 1888—within 10 minutes.

As City Clerk, Ms. Poyzer has overseen numerous municipal elections and has a long-established reputation for fair and impartial handling of candidates. Her duties have ranged from administering oaths and affirmations to helping organize the city's Centennial celebration in 1988. She has even taken charge of selling tickets to the annual Fourth of July celebration at the University of Redlands.

Over the years, Lorrie Poyzer has become known as the person who knows everything about the city and community of Redlands. She handles all requests for help and information cheerfully and efficiently.

Madam Speaker, after serving as the elected city clerk for 26 years, Lorrie Poyzer is retiring this month. We will all miss her vast knowledge of our city and its history, but we wish her success and happiness on her retirement. Please join me in commending her for a fabulous life of public service.

A TRIBUTE TO DAWN MONIQUE  
ADAMS-FULTON

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS-**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 10, 2009*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Dawn Monique Adams-Fulton.

Mrs. Adams-Fulton is a Rehabilitation Counselor for New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation. She presently provided services to the chemical dependency population at Cumberland Diagnostic and Treatment Center. She has provided this population with support and guidance for the last ten years. She has demonstrated a high level of dedication to the clients she services by ensuring that they have the tools they need to become and remain productive members of society.

She has been employed at Steinway Child & Family Services for 14 years as a Director Child Care worker. In this role, she is responsible for assisting children with problem solving, life skills and conflict resolution.

Prior to joining the New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation, Mrs. Adams-Fulton worked in the foster care system for eight years through a host agency, the Richard Allen Center on Life and Sheltering Arms Foster Care Agency. In both positions she was dedicated to making and ensuring children were protected and provided with a happy and safe beginning.

Her leadership, dedication and communication skills have been recognized through receiving many certificates of appreciation.

She obtained her Bachelor's of Science Degree from College of Human Services (presently known as Metropolitan College). Mrs. Adams-Fulton continued her education by attending Long Island University and received

her Master's of Science Degree in Counseling and Family Education. Mrs. Adams-Fulton also possesses her certification in the field of addiction (CASAC) and has a License in Mental Health Counseling (LMHC). In addition to her education, she has a credential in Family Development from Cornell University.

She is also a member of Dewitt Headstart Parent Involvement Committee. In this role she is responsible for encouraging and supporting parents and promoting their involvement in their children's education and future.

Mrs. Adams-Fulton enjoys spending her free time with her family and her circle of friends. Her role models are her grandmothers, Marion L. Adams and Emma Campbell. They instilled in her the importance of family and being responsible. In addition, she has a host of leaders that have provided guidance and encouragement in her professional growth.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Dawn Monique Adams-Fulton.

REMEMBERING SENATOR PAULA  
HAWKINS

**HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 10, 2009*

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember an historic figure in Florida politics, United States Senator Paula Hawkins, who died at the age of 82 on Friday, December 4, 2009.

Senator Hawkins was the first woman from any State elected to a full U.S. Senate term who was not the wife or daughter of a politician.

Senator Hawkins was a champion of children's issues and issues relating to single women.

She was instrumental in passing The Missing Children's Act of 1982, which established a national clearinghouse for information about missing children.

Senator Hawkins fought to help women enter the job market after divorce or widowhood, for equalizing pension benefits for women by taking into account their years spent at home raising children, for day care for the children of Senate employees and for tax breaks on child care expenses.

But probably her most courageous act took place in 1984 when she publicly disclosed that she was sexually molested as a child.

We should all be grateful to Senator Hawkins, Madam Speaker, for opening the door for so many others.

EARMARK DECLARATION

**HON. ZACH WAMP**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 10, 2009*

Mr. WAMP. Madam Speaker, as a leader on earmark reform among House Republicans, I am committed to honoring House Republican rules that provide for greater transparency. H.R. 3288, the Fiscal Year 2010 Consolidated Appropriations Act, contains the following funding that I requested:

Requesting Member: Rep. ZACH WAMP  
 Account: Army  
 Legal Name Requesting Entity: Fort Campbell, Kentucky  
 Address: 39 Normandy Avenue, Fort Campbell, Kentucky 42223

Description of Request: There is inadequate chapel space at Ft. Campbell. The current facilities are scattered across the entire installation in several substandard World War II buildings that are in disrepair. The construction of a chapel complex will provide every Fort Campbell soldier, their family members and retirees a quality facility in which to worship and practice their religious faith. As overseas deployments remain high, an increasing number of soldiers and families will rely on the chapel to support their spiritual needs. The local Clarksville Chamber of Commerce has strongly advocated for a new chapel on Ft. Campbell. Fort Campbell receives \$14.4 million for this project.

Distribution of funding:

Chapel 72%

Antiterrorism/Force Protection Measures 1%

Infrastructure (electric, water) 11%

Supervision, Inspection & Overhead 16%

Requesting Member: Rep. ZACH WAMP

Account: Defense Wide

Legal Name Requesting Entity: Fort Campbell, Kentucky

Address: 39 Normandy Avenue, Fort Campbell, Kentucky 42223

Description of Request: Proficiency of foreign language skills is needed to maintain unit and individual soldier readiness. Each Special Forces soldier is required to practice linguistic skills two-hours per day to maintain skill level. Currently, students conduct language training in a World War II-era facility. The space is inadequate for the number of special operation soldiers receiving language training especially during periods of high attendance. An average student load of 212 students is anticipated. Fort Campbell receives \$6.8 million for this project.

Distribution of funding:

Special Ops Language Training Facility 70%

Antiterrorism/Force Protection Measures 1%

Infrastructure (electric, water) 16%

Supervision, Inspection & Overhead 13%

Requesting Member: Rep. ZACH WAMP

Account: Surface Transportation Priorities

Legal Name Requesting Entity: City of Chattanooga's Enterprise Center

Address: 1250 Market Street, Suite 3020, Chattanooga, TN 37402

Description of Request: The City of Chattanooga's Enterprise Center requested funding to complete a feasibility study approved by Congress for a high speed maglev train between Atlanta, Chattanooga and Nashville. Atlanta's Hartsfield-Jackson Airport is the nation's busiest airport. A maglev train will relieve tremendous congestion in the Atlanta metro area and serve as part of a long needed "intermodal mass transit system" for the United States. Federal funding is needed for additional engineering work and development of a detailed financial plan, to include the number of riders and expected profits. The corridor is recommended by the State of Georgia's Joint Study Committee on Transportation Funding. The City of Chattanooga's Enterprise Center receives \$750,000 to complete this study.

Distribution of funding:

Salaries, wages, benefits and taxes 23.85%

Professional Fee/Contractors 56%  
 Office Supplies and maintenance 4.65%  
 Travel/Conferences and Meetings 9.07%  
 Indirect Costs 6.43%

Requesting Member: Rep. ZACH WAMP

Account: Interstate Maintenance Discretionary

Legal Name Requesting Entity: City of Cleveland

Address: 190 Church Street NE, Cleveland, TN 37311

Description of Request: The Cleveland Mayor and City Council requested funding to redesign and construct Exit 20 on Interstate 75 to eliminate a dangerous bottleneck of traffic and widen a narrow bridge. This exit is the gateway to the Tri-State Exhibition Center, the Ocoee Recreation Region and the Cherokee National Forest, and is often excessively congested and unsafe for vehicles. A new exit and widened bridge will improve safety for travelers, truck drivers and community residents. The redesign will also facilitate new industrial and commercial growth in the area. The Mayor and City of Cleveland receives \$1.2 million for this project.

Distribution of funding:

Right of way and utilities 100%

Requesting Member: Rep. ZACH WAMP

Account: Transportation Planning, Research and Development

Legal Name Requesting Entity: Oak Ridge National Laboratory

Address: 2360 Cherahala Boulevard, Knoxville, TN 37932

Description of Request: The National Transportation Research Center at Oak Ridge National Laboratory requested funding to examine how cutting edge technologies can be used to define real world driving conditions for advanced power train systems research. Building on past investments by the Oak Ridge National Laboratory and the University of Tennessee, this study will support existing research to increase automobile efficiency and safety and introduce new capabilities for advanced transportation for universities, the government and industry. Using these cutting edge technologies to test various combinations of engine components before building a prototype vehicle will save time and money in developing our nation's next generation of trucks, buses, military vehicles and passenger cars. Oak Ridge National Laboratory's National Transportation Research Center receives \$250,000 for this research.

Distribution of funding:

Data Analysis 50%

Model Development and Use 40%

Program Management & Reporting 10%

Requesting Member: Rep. ZACH WAMP

Account: Economic Development Initiative

Legal Name Requesting Entity: Claiborne County Industrial Development Board

Address: 1732 Main Street, Suite 1, Tazewell, TN 37879

Description of Request: The Claiborne County Center for Higher Education provides educational growth opportunities not available in Claiborne, Hancock, Grainger, and Union counties. Rural counties need access to advanced education. Career skills are necessary for the jobs of the future. The Claiborne County Industrial Development Board purchased an unused facility to provide job training for residents in this underserved area. The Claiborne County Industrial Development Board receives \$189,000 for renovations to the building.

Distribution of funding:

Fire Alarm 30.2%

ADA Compliance 31.8%

Window Replacement 33.8%

Architectural Design 4.2%

Requesting Member: Rep. ZACH WAMP

Account: Department of Education—Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE)

Legal Name Requesting Entity: University of Tennessee at Chattanooga

Address: 615 McCallie Avenue, Chattanooga, Tennessee 37403

Description of Request: The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga requested funding to create a Center for Leadership in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Education. Federal funding is needed to help establish the Center and assist in teacher recruitment, training and support. As the competition for technical innovations increases, improved education in these fields is critical to maintaining economic competitiveness in the region. The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga receives \$770,000 to establish its STEM Center.

Distribution of funding:

Center Implementation & Capacity Building 25%

Teacher Recruitment and Preparation 25%

Educator STEM Training & Support 25%

STEM Career Training for Adult Learners 25%

Requesting Member: Rep. ZACH WAMP

Account: Small Business Administration—Salaries and Expenses

Legal Name Requesting Entity: University of Memphis

Address: 303 FedEx Institute, Memphis, Tennessee 38152

Description of Request: The University of Memphis requested funding for an entrepreneurial training program to promote new business growth targeting science and technology-based and minority-owned businesses. Federal funding is needed for University of Memphis experts and students to develop business plans, evaluate new technologies and provide legal expertise to small businesses and entrepreneurs. The program will have a significant impact on the economy and encourage investment and jobs in the Memphis metropolitan area and the mid-south region. The University of Memphis receives \$685,000 for the entrepreneurial training program.

Distribution of funding:

Salaries and Center Administration 20%

Equipment 13%

Business and Legal Services and Training 47%

Education and Conferences 20%

Requesting Member: Rep. ZACH WAMP

Account: COPS-Methamphetamine Enforcement and Clean-up Grants

Legal Name Requesting Entity: Tennessee Bureau of Investigation-Tennessee Methamphetamine Task Force

Address: 901 R.S. Gass Blvd., Nashville, TN 37216-2369 c/o 1110 Market Street, Suite 332, Chattanooga, TN 37402

Description of Request: The Tennessee Bureau of Investigation and the Tennessee Methamphetamine Task Force requested funding to train and equip local law enforcement officers throughout the State of Tennessee in a cooperative effort to combat the manufacture, distribution and use of methamphetamine, both domestic and foreign, in Tennessee. Twenty-

four hour response will be provided to state and local law enforcement agencies fighting the epidemic. The Tennessee Bureau of Investigations and the Tennessee Meth Task Force receives \$2 million to supplement the lack of funding for preventing illegal methamphetamine use.

Distribution of funding:

Personnel 8%

Benefits 3%

Travel 8%

Equipment 16%

Supplies 25%

Contract law enforcement officers 31%

Training 9%

Requesting Member: Rep. ZACH WAMP

Account: Department of Justice Byrne Discretionary Grant Program

Legal Name Requesting Entity: City of Chattanooga

Address: 101 East 11th Street, Chattanooga, TN 37402

Description of Request: The Mayor and City Council of Chattanooga have requested funding to move and equip a law enforcement firing range. In 2003, President Bush signed legislation establishing the Moccasin Bend National Archeological District at the location where the current range has been used for police training for decades. The formation of the national park and the planned visitor center requires that the firing range be moved to another site. The Mayor and City of Chattanooga receives \$500,000 to offset part of the expense associated with the relocation.

Distribution of funding:

Facility renovation 30%

Equipment 50%

Technology 20%

#### A TRIBUTE TO DAVID CALLAWAY

### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS—

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 10, 2009

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of David Callaway, a clarinetist who has been described as nothing short of exhilarating. Mr. Callaway has captivated audiences throughout the U.S., England, France, Germany, Luxembourg, Switzerland, and Taiwan with this masterful virtuosity, expressiveness and musical inventiveness.

As an active educator, Mr. Callaway believes in the nurturing of young musicians, and has inspired future generations of music students through his teaching and mentoring. He is a former Fulbright Scholar to Taiwan, and specializes in the traditional Beiguan music of Taiwan.

Mr. Callaway has appeared with the Atlanta Opera Orchestra, Orlando Symphony, New York Philharmonia, New Jersey Philharmonic, New Haven Opera, Sinfonia Celestis, Manhattan Virtuosi, Conductor's Institute Orchestra, and various ensembles at the Spoleto festival in Charleston, South Carolina. He has performed under the batons of such conductors as Kurt Masur, Jerzy Semkow, William Schuman, Julius Rudel, William Fred Scott, Zdenek Macal and David Gilbert. In addition, Mr. Callaway has worked with prominent composers John Corigliano, Donald Martino, Jacob Druckman, Ned Rorem and Karel Husa.

Equally accomplished as a recitalist and chamber musician, Mr. Callaway has per-

formed at Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall, Alice Tully Hall, Merkin Concert Hall, Miller Theater at Columbia University and the Great Hall at Cooper Union. He is also an avid proponent of new music, and has performed the music of John Corigliano, Elliott Carter, Edison Denisov, Luciano Berio, Steve Reich, Donald Martino, Joan Tower, Chou Wen-chung and Huang-Long Pan.

As a recipient of the William J. Fulbright Scholarship award, David Callaway traveled to Taiwan to research the traditional Beiguan Music of Taiwan and genealogy of the double-reed suona. He served on the Fulbright Committee, was a frequent advisor and mentor to Taiwanese Fulbright grantees, and appeared on the Central Broadcasting Station's radio show "Life Unusual".

David Callaway has most recently served on the clarinet faculty of the Juilliard School's Music Advancement Program in New York City, and has taught at Vassar and Bard Colleges, the Manhattan School of Music, and as guest teacher at Emory University.

He received his Doctor of Music Arts and Master of Music degrees from the Manhattan School of Music, and his Bachelor of Music degree from the University of South Carolina. His major teachers have included Ricardo Morales, David Krakauer, Doug Graham and Laura Ardan.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing David Callaway.

#### 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF VOICE OF AMERICA'S SERVICE TO UKRAINE

### HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 10, 2009

Mr. LEVIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 60th anniversary of Voice of America's service to Ukraine.

Created in the early days of the Cold War, Voice of America provides comprehensive, uncensored information to Ukrainians about world events and reinforces the importance of free speech, expression, and a free press. As the Soviet Union fell and Ukraine struggled to shake off the reins of communism, Voice of America continued to serve as a trustworthy, pro-democratic source of news. Its commentary and analysis were highly valued during the Orange Revolution of 2004, and remain so as the country prepares for its first presidential election since ushering in a new era of democratic governance.

Today, Voice of America reaches almost five million viewers across Ukraine each week with its television programming and maintains a Ukrainian-language website with up-to-date news reports. Ukrainians continue to rely on these services for accurate information about national and international events, as well as to learn more about American politics and culture.

Madam Speaker, Voice of America will celebrate its many contributions to Ukraine on December 11, 2009. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Voice of America, and its dedicated staff, for its six decades of service to Ukraine.

IN HONOR OF DOUGLAS J. FOLEY

### HON. JOHN H. ADLER

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 10, 2009

Mr. ADLER of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to have this opportunity to express my gratitude to Mr. Douglas J. Foley for his dedicated and tireless service with the East Dover Fire Company in Toms River, NJ.

Mr. Foley has selflessly and bravely served the people of Toms River throughout his career and is retiring in January after a lifetime of service. After serving as vice-president of the company for the past eight years, he has made important improvements to the Fire Company and the safety of the town and its people.

I would like to thank Mr. Foley for his exemplary service. Thank you for all you have done and I wish you a Happy Retirement.

#### HONORING GRIFFIN HOSPITAL AS IT CELEBRATES ITS CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

### HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 10, 2009

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to join all of those gathered to celebrate the centennial anniversary of Griffin Hospital. On December 9, 1909, Ralph Colonna, a worker at Ansonia Brass was the first patient admitted to Griffin Hospital and thus began its distinguished history of providing quality health services to the communities of the Lower Naugatuck Valley.

When Griffin Hospital first opened its doors, it held just twenty-four beds. Today, Griffin Hospital has grown into one of the most respected health institutions in the country. Its facilities cover hundreds of thousands of square feet and include the Griffin Imaging and Diagnostics Center, the Hewitt Ambulatory Pavilion, the Center for Cancer Care, the Yale Griffin Prevention Research Center, Childbirth Center, as well as the only hospital based hospice service in Connecticut. From Charles E. Clark, the hospital's first president, to today's President and Chief Executive Officer, Patrick Charnel, the unique vision of its strong leadership has allowed Griffin to expand its services to meet the changing needs of its patients and the community. In fact, in 2005, much in part because of Griffin's growing industry leadership position, Pat was appointed by the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services to the National Advisory Council for the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.

Perhaps most important is the culture of care that surrounds Griffin Hospital. In 1992, Griffin adopted the Planetree patient-centered care philosophy—promoting the development and implementation of innovative models of healthcare that focus on health and nurturing body, mind, and soul. Just last year, Griffin became a "Designated Planetree Patient-Centered Hospital" which is the formal recognition of the hospital's achievement and innovation in fostering an organizational culture that prioritizes patient comfort, dignity, empowerment, and well-being. In following this patient-

centered care philosophy, Griffin has also created an extraordinary work environment for all Griffin employees—reflected in its recent celebration of its tenth consecutive year on FORTUNE Magazine's "100 Best Companies to Work For" list.

Griffin Hospital not only provides outstanding care to its patients but also devotes programs and resources to benefit the greater community as well. The Valley Parish Nurse Program, which today serves thirty-five churches throughout the Lower Naugatuck Valley, provides health education, screening and referral services to a total of thirty-five thousand parishioners with a primary focus on outreach efforts to the underserved, minority, and low-income populations. Griffin also founded and sponsored the Healthy Valley project—the goal of which is to make the Valley a better place in which to live, work, raise a family, and enjoy life by measurably improving the quality of life and health of the community and its residents. Healthy Valley also focused on enhancing regional economic development by making the community a better place for businesses to relocate and expand as well as for their employees to live.

An industry leader in providing quality patient-centered care and understanding that their involvement is fundamental to the continued growth and prosperity of its surrounding communities, there are innumerable ways in which Griffin Hospital has made a difference. I am proud to stand today to congratulate the Board of Directors, administrators, and staff alike as they celebrate this very special occasion. Today, as they mark their centennial anniversary, they not only celebrate their past accomplishments but, as they have for the last one hundred years, they look to the future—to ensure that they continue to provide the best possible care to their patients and meet the ever-changing needs of our community. I wish them all the best for another century of success.

#### HONORING JOHN HARRIS

#### HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 10, 2009*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate John Harris upon being awarded the "Distinguished Citizen Award" by the Sequoia Council, Boy Scouts of America. Mr. Harris will be honored on Tuesday, November 24, 2009 at a special luncheon at Harris Ranch.

Mr. John Harris was born and raised in Coalinga, California in the heart of the San Joaquin Valley. Mr. Harris attended and graduated from the University of California, Davis in 1965 with a Bachelors of Science degree in Agricultural Production/Agricultural Economics. While attending UC Davis, he was commissioned into the United States Army through the ROTC program.

Upon returning to the San Joaquin Valley, Mr. Harris began working on the family farm and ranch, Harris Farms. Harris Farms was founded in 1937 by Mr. Harris' parents, Jack and Teresa Harris. Over the years, the family business has grown to become one of the largest integrated farming operations in the Central San Joaquin Valley. The company

produces over a dozen crops including almonds, citrus, tomatoes, lettuce, wine grapes and pistachios. The farm has also expanded to include Harris Ranch Beef Company, which is one of California's largest fed cattle processors, producing nearly two million pounds of beef per year.

In 1966, Mr. Harris and his father decided to devote a substantial part of the Harris Ranch farming and cattle operation to raising and training of Thoroughbred racehorses. The company provides six hundred acres to the Thoroughbreds and has bred and raced several of California's championship horses. In addition to the farm, the cattle ranch and the Thoroughbred Division, the Harris Company also has multiple restaurants and an inn. Today, with Mr. Harris serving as the Chairman of the Board for Harris Farms, the companies in total employ over fifteen hundred people and have gross sales exceeding three hundred million dollars.

Outside of operating Harris Farms, Mr. Harris is involved with numerous organizations. He is a member of the board for the Water Growers Association and serves as Chair of the Water Committee. Mr. Harris also serves on the Board of Trustees of the Pacific Legal Foundation and is currently serving as Chair of Cattle PAC for the board of California Cattlemen's Association. He has been involved with the California Horse Racing Board since 2001 and is currently serving as Chairman of the board. Mr. Harris also serves on the boards of several agricultural related companies; including Sunny Cove Citrus, Los Gatos Tomato Products, Harris Woolf Almonds and California Thoroughbred Breeders Association.

Mr. Harris has worked with the Sequoia Council, Boy Scouts of America for almost twenty years, hosting an annual luncheon to benefit the chapter. The lunch supports the Scouting programs in western Fresno County and Kings County. His concern and dedication to the youth of our area and his love of Scouting has kept him working with the Sequoia Council, Boy Scouts of America and the growth of Scouting here in the San Joaquin Valley.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate John Harris upon being awarded the "Distinguished Citizen Award." I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Harris many years of continued success.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 10, 2009*

Mr. CARTER. Madam Speaker, on December 9, 2009, I was unable to be present for several rollcall votes. If present, I would have voted accordingly on the following rollcall votes:

Roll No. 942—"nay."

Roll No. 943—"nay."

Roll No. 944—"yea."

#### A TRIBUTE TO WESTON SPROTT

#### HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS-

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 10, 2009*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mr. Weston Sprott who was appointed second trombone of the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra in the Spring of 2005.

Mr. Sprott attended Indiana University before completing his Bachelor of Music degree at The Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia. While a student at Curtis, Mr. Sprott held the positions of principal trombone in the Pennsylvania Ballet Orchestra (Philadelphia) and the Delaware Symphony Orchestra. He was the founding member of the Texas Trombone Octet, a group that won the Emory Remington competition and was featured in concert at the International Trombone Festival in Helsinki, Finland.

Mr. Sprott has worked under the baton of many of the world's great conductors including Sir Simon Rattle, James Levine, Kurt Masur, Lorin Maazel, Christoph Eschenbach, Andre Previn and numerous others. Mr. Sprott was recently featured in the documentary film "A Wayfarer's Journey: Listening to Mahler" with actor Richard Dreyfuss and actress Kathleen Chalfant. He was also a performer in the film "Rittenhouse Square," a documentary under the direction of Robert Downey that played in major film festivals throughout the United States to critical acclaim. In September 2007, Mr. Sprott made his Carnegie Hall solo debut performing Lars Erik-Larsson's concertino in Weill Recital Hall at the invitation of the Bulgarian Consulate. Other engagements have led to performances with gospel and jazz artists such as Branford Marsalis, Take 6 and Donnie McClurkin. Mr. Sprott's performances and interviews have been seen and heard on various TV and radio shows such as: PBS' Great Performances, NPR's Performance Today, and Sirius Satellite Radio.

In demand as a soloist and master class clinician, Mr. Sprott has been a featured guest artist at several of America's leading conservatories and universities. He is currently on the faculty at the Purchase College Conservatory and Julliard's Music Advancement Program, and he previously served on the faculty of The New School University, a division of the Mannes School of Music in New York City. Weston Sprott is an artist/clinician for the Edwards Instrument Company and Music. He performs exclusively on Edwards's trombones and Greg Black mouthpieces.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Weston Sprott.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. J. GRESHAM BARRETT

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 10, 2009*

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, unfortunately, I missed the following recorded votes on the House floor on Tuesday, December 1, 2009 and Wednesday, December 2, 2009.

For Tuesday, December 1, 2009, had I been present I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote No. 911, on motion to suspend the

rules and agree to H.R. 3029; "aye" on rollcall vote No. 912, on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 727; "no" on rollcall vote No. 913, on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H.R. 3667.

For Wednesday, December 2, 2009, had I been present I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote No. 914, on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 494; "aye" on rollcall vote No. 915, on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Con. Res. 129; "aye" on rollcall vote No. 916, on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 861; "aye" on rollcall vote No. 917, on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 897; "aye" on rollcall vote No. 918, on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H.R. 3634; "no" on rollcall vote No. 919, on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H.R. 515; "aye" on rollcall vote No. 920, on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Con. Res. 197; "aye" on rollcall vote No. 921, on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H.R. 1242; "aye" on rollcall vote No. 922, on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H.R. 3980.

20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CONGRESSIONAL SPORTSMEN CAUCUS AND CONGRESSIONAL SPORTSMEN FOUNDATION

**HON. DAN BOREN**

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 10, 2009*

Mr. BOREN. Madam Speaker, as House Co-Chair of the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus and lifelong sportsman, I hereby recognize the 20th Anniversary of the founding of the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus and the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation. The Foundation was officially incorporated 20 years ago this week on December 7, 1989.

On behalf of the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus and the millions of hunters and anglers across the country, congratulations to the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation on 20 years of successfully supporting the Caucus in advancing pro-sportsmen hunting, fishing, and conservation issues in the United States Congress.

The Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation is the most trusted organization focused on issues of importance to this nation's sporting heritage and serves as the most critical link between sportsmen and women and the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus. The sportsmen and women of America can be proud of the long standing partnership between the Caucus and Foundation in accomplishing many legislative victories on their behalf.

Since its inception, the bipartisan Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus has grown into one of the largest and most effective caucuses in the United States Congress with nearly 300 members representing almost all 50 states. With bipartisan leadership in both the House and the Senate, the Caucus is the sportsmen's ally and first line of defense in Washington promoting and protecting the rights of hunters, trappers and anglers.

With the success of the CSC/CSF partnership, the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation created a network of state legislative sportsmen's caucuses modeled after the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus in 2004,

launching the National Assembly of Sportsmen's Caucuses (NASC). Currently with 38 state legislative sportsmen's caucuses and nearly 2,000 legislators, the NASC facilitates the interaction and idea exchange among state caucus leaders and the outdoor community.

Earlier this year the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation launched the Governors Sportsmen's Caucus to facilitate communication and information exchange among a bipartisan team of state chief executives in support of legislation and regulations that promote and protect hunting and fishing. Guided by a bipartisan leadership team of governors and staffed through the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation, the GSC further enhances the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus and the National Assembly of Sportsmen's Caucuses.

The combination of the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus, the National Assembly of Sportsmen's Caucuses, and the Governor's Sportsmen's Caucus, working side-by-side with the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation, serves as an unprecedented network of pro-sportsmen elected officials that promote and protect the agenda of America's hunters and anglers.

The Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus and Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation looks back fondly on the accomplishments of the last 20 years and now looks forward to continuing the work of protecting America's hunters and anglers in the future.

HONORING DR. FLOYD E. "JACK" BOWLING

**HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 10, 2009*

Mr. DUNCAN. Madam Speaker, today I wish to pay tribute and celebrate the long and successful life of one of my District's most devoted community leaders and academics.

Dr. Floyd E. "Jack" Bowling recently passed away at the age of 98. Dr. Bowling was beloved in Athens, Tennessee, one of the finest communities in the State. For the past 50 years, he called Athens home and fullheartedly devoted his time to bettering his beloved Tennessee Wesleyan College.

Dr. Bowling served Tennessee Wesleyan College not only as a teacher and administrator but also as its most important fundraiser and benefactor.

His impact on the college is evident as one strolls its beautiful campus. He had a special passion for athletics, and through Dr. Bowling's own donations and fundraising, he was almost solely responsible for Tennessee Wesleyan College's new baseball field and stadium, which rightfully bears his name.

He was also greatly responsible for the school's tennis complex and gym bleachers and used his own money to create the college's first computer lab.

Everyone had the deepest admiration and respect for Dr. Bowling. Great communities and institutions of higher education around the Nation are made so only by selfless and devoted persons like Dr. Bowling.

The current President of Tennessee Wesleyan College, Steve Condon, recently told the Daily Post Athenian Newspaper, "Virtually ev-

erything he touched, every person he engaged, every project he attempted and every colleague and student he mentored was better off because of his light. He was a gift from God to all of us."

We can all only strive to be remembered in such a way.

Dr. Bowling's service was not confined to Tennessee Wesleyan College's campus. He has long been a supporter of the McMinn Living Heritage Museum and United Way of McMinn and Meigs Counties. He also served as president of the Kiwanis Club, where he was a longtime member.

Madam Speaker, the passing of Dr. Floyd E. "Jack" Bowling is a tremendous loss for the Athens community, Tennessee Wesleyan College, his family and many friends, and the multiple causes he has championed over the years. I call his service to the attention of my colleagues and other readers of the RECORD and thank him for being an example to us all.

A TRIBUTE TO GILLEYAN J. HARGROVE

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS-**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 10, 2009*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Gilleyan J. Hargrove.

Gilleyan was born and raised in Brooklyn, NY. She received her early education at the public schools of Brooklyn, New York. Her education continued at Syracuse University, where she received a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and African American Studies in 1989. Gilleyan then attended graduate school at Binghamton University of New York, receiving a Master's of Science in Education in 1991. She received her administration and supervision license from the College of Saint Rose in 2002.

Gilleyan has always had a love for school and learning new things. She has been an educator for 18 years beginning her work as an elementary school teacher at Community School 21 in Brooklyn and then as an assistant principal at the Program for Pregnant Students in Brooklyn. Gilleyan currently serves as principal at the Granville T. Woods Middle School for Science and Technology in Crown Heights, Brooklyn, where providing students with access to a quality education and a safe environment remains a priority. Gilleyan believes as an educator she has a charge to keep and a God to glorify.

Gilleyan also is a proud lifetime member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. She is married to Eric M. Hargrove and they have two children, a daughter, Brianne Ashley and son, Tyler Robert.

Following in the spiritual foundation set before her by her late grandmother Mary Rose Blowe Couch and mother, Elaine Couch Hinds, Gilleyan has served God for 30 years as a member of Wayside Baptist Church, where her spiritual father and mentor, the late Pastor Joe L. Parker, taught her how to love the Lord. Currently, Gilleyan is a member of Bethlehem Baptist Church where her Pastor is Reverend Larry W. Camp.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Gilleyan J. Hargrove.



## EARMARK DECLARATION

**HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON**

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 10, 2009*

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Speaker, in accordance with the policies and standards put forth by the House Appropriations Committee and the GOP Leadership, I place in the RECORD a listing of the congressionally-directed projects I requested in my home State of Idaho that are contained in the Conference Report accompanying H.R. 3288, the FY2010 Consolidated Appropriations Act.

## DIVISION A—FY2010 TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Project Name: Buses and Bus Facilities, Idaho Transit Coalition

Amount Received: \$1,000,000

Account: FTA/Buses and Bus Facilities

Recipient: Community Transportation Association of Idaho

Recipient's Street Address: 10480 Garverdale Court, Bldg. 4, Ste. 804A, Boise, ID 83704

Description: Funding for this project will be used to support essential transit systems in rural and urban areas of the State of Idaho. This project meets the criteria of the FTA's Section 5209 Capital Program and has been funded by the Committee since FY 2002.

Project Name: Custer County Economic Development Initiative in Custer County, ID

Amount Received: \$500,000

Account: HUD/EDI

Recipient: Custer County, ID

Recipient's Street Address: 802 Main Street, Challis, ID 83226

Description: At almost 5,000 square miles, Custer County is larger than three states, and it has just over 4,000 people. Unfortunately, it is burdened with a high proportion of public lands with over 95 percent of the county's 3.4 million acres administered by federal agencies. The county's tax base, or more specifically the lack thereof, is inadequate to support the services required for such an expansive county. This grossly disproportionate public ownership causes a severe strain on their resources. Funding would be used to construct a community center which would serve a number of purposes for the county.

Project Name: I-84, Broadway to Gowen Road Widening, Boise, ID

Amount Received: \$400,000

Account: FHWA/Interstate Maintenance Discretionary

Recipient: Idaho Transportation Department  
Recipient's Street Address: 3311 West State Street, Boise, ID 83707

Description: This project will add a third east and westbound lane to I-84 between Broadway Avenue and Gowen Road on I-84. The FY10 earmark will fund the design of this project. The project will be ready for construction in FY11 in conjunction with the Connecting Idaho—GARVEE, bonding—projects in this area. This project is required to alleviate congestion and safety issues caused by the continued fast growth in the Treasure Valley. This project is included in the I-84 Boise Corridor Study adopted by the Idaho Transportation and Community Planning Association of Southwest Idaho, COMPASS, Boards in October of 2001 and part of the COMPASS Regional 2030 Long Range Transportation Plan, approved in 2006.

Project Name: Trail Creek Highway/Forest Highway 66 Reconstruction, Mackay, ID

Amount Received: \$3,750,000

Account: FHWA/Public Lands Highways

Recipient: Lost River Highway District

Recipient's Street Address: 213 South McCaleb, Mackay, ID 83251

Description: Trail Creek Highway/Forest Highway 66 runs through the Salmon-Challis National Forest from U.S. Highway 93 west to Sun Valley, Idaho. The road is maintained entirely by the Lost River Highway District and includes 17 miles of unpaved road that is used extensively for commerce and recreational purposes by tourists and homeowners. The high traffic volume—500 cars per day and expected to grow—and poor road conditions cause safety concerns for those traveling along the highway. Funds would be used to complete study and design work and upgrade the road by paving 5.5 miles of gravel road from the end of existing pavement near the West Bartlett Point Road—MP 11.750—to the Copper Basin Turn-off, MP 17.250.

## DIVISION B—FY2010 COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE AND RELATED AGENCIES

Project Name: Boise Center Aerospace Laboratory, BCAL, Watershed Modeling Utilizing LiDAR at Idaho State University

Amount Requested: \$500,000

Account: Department of Commerce NOAA

Recipient: Idaho State University

Recipient's Street Address: 921 South 8th Avenue Stop 8007, Pocatello, Idaho 83209

Description: ISU's Department of Geosciences has developed free spatial analysis tools available to the public for remote sensing and geographic information sciences, GIS. The remote sensing tools include a downloadable toolbox for analyzing light detection and ranging, LiDAR, data. LiDAR is an imaging method using a laser mounted on an aircraft to determine precise vertical information, topography, of the earth's surface—15 cm precision. Commonly, this information is translated into high-resolution digital elevation models, DEMs. LiDAR can provide both a bare earth surface and the vegetated—or built—surface. LiDAR can also provide topographic data below water. Specifically to the concern of NOAA and the State of Idaho, LiDAR can provide up to date and precise flood plain maps for rivers with built environments—such as the Boise River—to guide decisions on flood insurance coverage and land use restrictions. These predictive maps can also aid in evacuation of people and livestock during an impending flood. This project will leverage existing infrastructure and expertise at ISU to develop state-of-the-art watershed modeling tools for NOAA and other federal agencies. These tools will enable better management of watersheds through improved topographic analyses for prediction of runoff, floods, and water storage capacity. Hyperspectral analysis—soils and vegetation—will be coupled with the LiDAR data for a full characterization, spectrally and spatially of the landscape. These analyses will allow for studies of vegetation structure, dependence of vegetation, soils, and earth processes, e.g. fire, erosion, on topology—slope and aspect, drainages, surface roughness. The goal of this research and its resulting algorithms and tools is to significantly benefit NOAA in its ability to convert LiDAR data into usable derivative datasets for environmental and safety applications in Idaho and elsewhere.

Project Name: Idaho Meth Project

Amount Requested: \$1,000,000

Account: Department of Justice COPS Meth

Recipient: Idaho Meth Project

Recipient's Street Address: 304 N. 8th Street, Room 446, Boise, Idaho 83702

Description: Methamphetamine trafficking and abuse in Idaho has been on the rise over the past few years and, as a result, meth is having a devastating impact in many communities throughout Idaho. Meth is the number one illegal drug of choice in Idaho and the State's leading drug problem. The financial and social consequences of meth abuse in Idaho are devastating. It is a contributing cause for much of the crime in Idaho, costs millions of dollars in productivity, contributes to the ever increasing prison populations and adversely impacts families. The Idaho Meth Project is a large-scale, statewide prevention and public awareness program designed to reduce the prevalence of first-time methamphetamine abuse in Idaho by influencing attitudes through high-impact advertising. The Idaho Meth Project is focused solely upon prevention and, to achieve this goal, is active in three areas: public service messaging, community action and public policy. This includes a pervasive media campaign reaching the target population through TV, radio, billboards, print, and the Internet.

Project Name: Idaho State Police to participate in the Criminal Information Sharing Affiliates Network, CISAnet

Amount Requested: \$500,000

Account: Department of Justice COPS Law Enforcement Technology

Recipient: Idaho State Police

Recipient's Street Address: 700 South Stratford, Meridian, Idaho 83642

Description: In 2006, the Idaho State Police, ISP, developed and deployed, on a limited basis, a web-based Case Investigative System, CIS. This tool allows investigators to collect, use and share critical law enforcement information across the state. CISAnet provides a bi-directional information-sharing network within and between state and local law enforcement agencies. CISAnet provides ISP and law enforcement across Idaho with real time access to criminal intelligence information shared by law enforcement partner agencies within the states of Alabama, Arizona, California, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas. This ten state area is regarded as one of the most vulnerable to our Nation's security—a "soft spot" through which illegal Mexican immigrants filter, illegal drug trafficking passes and terrorists move freely. It is believed that securing this porous border with Mexico is an effective way to protect American citizens. The CISAnet system provides an effective means for law enforcement agencies to share information across state lines on known or suspected criminal activity. Together, access to CISAnet, Idaho's Fusion Center and remote access to CIS will ensure that Idaho state and local law enforcement officers have the best information available in a timely manner. In today's environment, these systems are an effective way to monitor illegal drug and terrorist activity and identify, target and locate potential terrorists. These systems are important components of an overall prevention strategy and are crucial to protecting the citizens of Idaho and the United States' homeland security. The Criminal Information Sharing Alliance network, CISAnet, FY2010

federal funding will be used to continue the integration of CIS into the CISAnet infrastructure, to expand its capabilities by adding a Geo coding module and by integrating CIS, RMS and CISAnet into Idaho's Criminal Intelligence Center.

Project Name: NCOMS Medical and Mental Health Sharing Software Development

Amount Requested: \$500,000

Account: Department of Justice Byrne Discretionary Grants

Recipient: Idaho Department of Corrections  
Recipient's Street Address: 1299 North Orchard, Suite 110, Boise, Idaho 83706.

Description: States are legally mandated to provide appropriate medical care to incarcerated individuals. These funds will be used to create, modularize and implement the medical/mental health module for the National Consortium of Offender Management Systems, NCOMS. This technology will allow public safety organizations that house offenders to track and record the medical information to ensure that offenders receive proper medical treatment.

DIVISION C—FY2010 FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT

Project Name: Proof of Concept Center

Amount Received: \$285,000

Account: Small Business Administration Salaries and Expenses

Recipient: Idaho TechConnect Inc.

Recipient's Street Address: 5465 E. Terra Linda Way, Nampa, ID 83687

Description: Idaho TechConnect was created as a state-wide private-public cooperation that would bridge the gaps in the state's innovation pipeline. The Idaho TechConnect Proof of Concept Center will manage innovations from early stage projects to the launch of a viable start-up business or to license the product or service to an existing business. The Proof of Concept Center will work with new and existing businesses as well as the state's colleges and universities and the INL to create new commercial products, goods and services. Concepts will be vetted to ensure significant and efficient marketability and commercialization. These concepts will then be relegated to teams/existing businesses to build or expand successful and profitable businesses. The Center will provide assistance with business models, intellectual property strategy, and access to capital, resulting in more ideas becoming products, creating jobs and companies. During these challenging economic times, this funding will assist businesses and public entities in their efforts to mature their innovative ideas into market-ready products and services to strengthen the economy of Idaho and the region.

Project Name: Research and Economic Development and Entrepreneurial Initiative

Amount Received: \$400,000

Account: Small Business Administration Salaries and Expenses

Recipient: Boise State University

Recipient's Street Address: 1910 University Drive, Boise, ID 83725-1135.

Description: Boise State University will establish research partnerships with business and governmental agencies to aid and assist businesses in an effort to preserve free market enterprise and to maintain and strengthen the local and regional economy. The federal funds being requested will be used to match private and public sector dollars and in-kind contributions to conduct collaborative research that

spurs intellectual innovation, creates jobs, and ultimately leads to the benefit and growth of the business community. The funds will also be used to develop the necessary infrastructure to mine, protect, and assess the commercialization potential of the intellectual property that is developed as a result of these efforts. A healthy businesses climate is critical to the economic strength of the state of Idaho, the region and the nation. The innovation and entrepreneurial spirit that originates from this sector will help the United States compete in today's global marketplace.

DIVISION D—FY 2010 LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION AND RELATED AGENCIES

Project Name: Bear Lake Memorial Hospital Addition and Remodel

Amount Received: \$300,000

Account: Health Resources and Services Administration Health Facilities and Services

Recipient: Bear Lake Memorial Hospital

Recipient's Address: 164 South 5th Street, Montpelier, Idaho 83254

Description: The Bear Lake Memorial Hospital is a key service provider to all individuals and plays a vital role in the community, as well as provides services to the popular Bear Lake recreation area. The current Emergency Department lacks sufficient space for a waiting room for emergency room patrons. It also fails to meet HIPPA compliance because of a lack of privacy for patients due to a high-use public hallway dissecting the two emergency room locations. In addition, the current diagnostic imaging facilities are scattered throughout the hospital, which makes it more difficult to provide timely and efficient care. By consolidating the services into one wing, the hospital will be able to provide improved patient care and increase overall staff efficiency. Funding provided would be used for the design and construction of a new addition as well as a renovation of the existing facilities in the Emergency Department and Diagnostic Imaging Department.

Project Name: College of Southern Idaho's Pro-Tech Training Program

Amount Received: \$200,000

Account: Department of Education Higher Education

Recipient: College of Southern Idaho

Recipient's Address: 315 Falls Avenue, Twin Falls, ID 83303-1238

Description: This program will enable the College to partner with other agencies to identify training needs and to identify potential candidates for employment. Data provided by Region IV of the State of Idaho Economic Development Agency indicate that manufacturing will be a leading employment area in the Magic Valley and the state of Idaho with over 250 new jobs expected over the next two years. Current trends in manufacturing development necessitate the need for in-depth training in the technological aspects of the design, fabrication, and manufacturing phases of production. CSI is participating in a joint educational venture with Twin Falls High School and local industry that creates a pre-engineering academy at the high school and a Computerized Numeric Controls, CNC/Industrial Networking Program at the college campus. The Pro-Tech program involves students from grade levels 10-14, and allows the students to move from high school into a two-year program at CSI or into an engineering program at one of Idaho's four-year institutions. At the secondary school level, students learn the ba-

sics of computer-assisted design, design physics, and fabrication, with each course offering aligned to the program at CSI through either tech prep or dual credit affiliation. At the post-secondary level students will receive industry-standard training in CNC, automated logic, and industrial networking. This program will train students to meet the educational requirements needed to enable them to enter the high demand fields of the hi-tech manufacturing and engineering sectors.

Project Name: Custer County Purchase of Medical Equipment

Amount Received: \$400,000

Account: Health Resources and Services Administration Health Facilities and Services

Recipient: Custer County

Recipient's Address: 801 East Main Avenue, Challis, ID 83226

Description: At almost 5,000 square miles, Custer County is larger than three states yet has just over 4,000 people. Unfortunately, it is burdened with a high proportion of public lands with over 95 percent of the county's 3.4 million acres administered by federal agencies. The county's tax base, or more specifically the lack thereof, is inadequate to support the services required for such an expansive county. This grossly disproportionate public ownership causes a severe strain on their resources, including their ability to provide access to health services. The influx of tourism and visitors due to the nearby U.S. Forest Service, BLM, recreation and wilderness areas leads to an increased rate of trauma and accidents, placing a large burden on the county. The EMT services and health clinics in the County are in need of renovation and modernization of equipment. This funding would be used to purchase the much needed equipment and technology for the clinics and EMT services in Custer County.

Project Name: Idaho Caring Foundation for Children for dental services for low-income children

Amount Received: \$300,000

Account: Health Resources and Services Administration Health Facilities and Services

Recipient: Idaho Caring Foundation for Children

Recipient's Address: 1211 W. Myrtle, Suite 110, Boise, ID 83702

Description: According to the 2000 U.S. Surgeon General's report, "Oral Health in America", tooth decay is the single most common chronic childhood disease. As a dentist, I understand the importance of proper dental hygiene at a very young age. Poor oral health can affect a child's self-esteem, ability to eat, appearance and ability to communicate. School attendance can also be negatively impacted. Over 35 percent of Idaho children lack dental insurance, which serves as a major deterrent in accessing and receiving needed dental care. According to Idaho Department of Health and Welfare 2005 Smile Survey, 27 percent of Idaho children in grades K-6 had untreated decay. Low-income, uninsured children suffer the greatest incidence of dental decay because their families lack the financial resources to receive regular dental care. The Idaho Caring Foundation will provide access to needed dental services for 600 low-income, uninsured Idaho children. These services will be provided by our network of 140 Idaho dentists from across the state. Eligible children will be identified by working in partnership with Idaho schools, Head Start programs, and

other children's programs, such as the YMCA and the Boys & Girls Clubs.

Project Name: Idaho Early Literacy Project  
Amount Received: \$350,000

Account: Department of Education Elementary and Secondary Education

Recipient: Lee Pesky Learning Center

Recipient's Address: 3324 Elder Street, Boise, ID 83705.

Description: The aim of the Idaho Early Literacy Project is to ensure that all children in Idaho are ready to read when they enter school. Stage III includes utilization of the research-based booklets, "Every Child Ready to Read and Every Child Ready for Math", an integrated approach to reading and mathematical literacy, the training of child care providers statewide, both live and on-line, and a direct intervention with parents and children. The training of child care providers includes a face-to-face approach in larger population centers and an on-line approach for remote rural locations. Stage III builds on early literacy training models implemented in 2008–2010 by unifying reading and mathematical literacy and by strengthening the intervention with parents and children. As such, the project assures that pre-school children will receive direct literacy education from child care providers and in special workshops with their parents, creating the "language rich" upbringing necessary to success in school.

Project Name: Idaho SySTEMic Solution

Amount Received: \$400,000

Account: Department of Education Elementary and Secondary Education

Recipient: Boise State University

Recipient's Address: 1910 University Drive, Boise, ID 83725–1135

Description: Idaho SySTEMic Solution is a nationally relevant, hands-on, project-based STEM learning system (science, technology, engineering, & math) designed to spur achievement and confidence among elementary-age learners and their teachers. Proven methods show that long-term student achievement and interest in STEM can be dramatically improved by introducing systemic, contiguous, and engaging hands-on activities at an elementary level before children develop misconceptions, gender bias, math anxiety, or become distracted by cultural influences prevalent at puberty. In 2010 the project will extend into middle school grades where the need for hands-on activities is even greater. Key project components include a comprehensive, continuing teacher training model that includes a one-week summer institute and ongoing site-based follow-up training to boost the ability and confidence of elementary and middle school teachers; implementation into demographically diverse schools of curriculum-aligned learning lab systems that have been shown to improve student scores in math, science, and technology; and research and evaluation of results in accordance with Idaho and national assessment standards.

Project Name: Madison County Memorial Hospital Renovation

Amount Received: \$350,000

Account: Health Resources and Services Administration Health Facilities and Services

Recipient: Madison County Memorial Hospital

Recipient's Address: 450 East Main, Rexburg, ID 83440

Description: Madison Memorial Hospital will initiate the implementation of the Electronic

Medical Record, EMR, System into Physician Clinics that feed into Madison Memorial Hospital. Information from the EMR helps the clinician make informed decisions. As the patient status is entered into this EMR, the information increases staff efficiencies through faster transcription times, nursing notes, lab results, radiology and other electronic sources. This system will make it easier for physicians and clinicians to comply with all regulations by enabling them to keep their records up to date. Patient safety will be increased by developing a paperless electronic medical record environment where clinical information can be readily shared via electronic transactions with all entities within the Madison Memorial Hospital network.

Project Name: Purchase of Biochemistry and Microbiology Laboratory Equipment

Amount Received: \$400,000

Account: Health Resources and Services Administration Health Facilities and Services

Recipient: Idaho State University

Recipient's Address: 921 South 8th Avenue, Stop 8007, Pocatello, ID 83209–8007

Description: Modern instrumentation is essential to improving both the Biochemistry and Microbiology programs at Idaho State University, ISU. This request will enable the purchase of the required instrumentation needed for courses in biochemistry courses, chemistry laboratories, and microbiology and biology courses. More than 400 students per year would gain access to state of the art instrumentation through this request, improving both the quality of their educational experience and the quality of research in these scientific fields that can be pursued.

Project Name: St. Luke's Regional Medical Center's Children Health Services Expansion

Amount Received: \$350,000

Account: Health Resources and Services Administration Health Facilities and Services

Recipient: St. Luke's Regional Medical Center Ltd

Recipient's Address: 190 E. Bannock Street, Boise, ID 83712

Description: St. Luke's Health System is home to the only Children's Hospital in Idaho, providing unique full-service tertiary pediatric services between Salt Lake City, Utah, and Portland, Oregon, both more than 350 miles from Boise, Idaho. St. Luke's delivers over 25 percent of the babies born in the State. The Children's Health Services Expansion project provides an essential increase in capacity for Pediatric Medical/Surgical, Pediatric Intensive Care, Neonatal Intensive Care, Pediatric Oncology, and Pediatric Surgical Suites and support area, to meet the needs of the rapidly growing population in the hospital's service area. Prior to the beginning of this multi-year project, each area was frequently full, requiring children to be placed in adult units or diverted to other and often very distant hospitals. The federal funding provided for the expansion project has resulted in expanding all units with state-of-the-art facilities and equipment. Funding received will assist with the purchase of equipment, including electronic medical record hardware and software programs and patient monitor technology for patient support and EMR connectivity to be used in the Medical/Surgical Pediatrics, Pediatric and Neonatal Intensive Care, Oncology, Surgical Suites and support areas. The hospital is spending millions on the expansion and federal funds will represent only a small portion of the project's total costs.

Project Name: Twin Falls Library Modernization Project

Amount Received: \$100,000

Account: Museums and Libraries in the Institute of Museums and Library Services

Recipient: City of Twin Falls

Recipient's Address: 201 Fourth Avenue East, Twin Falls, ID 83301

Description: The Twin Falls Public Library seeks to obtain a fully searchable database for its local historical newspapers. The library has on 709 reels of microfilm of local newspapers from 1904 to the present. It is difficult to use the microfilm because of its deteriorating physical condition and outdated format. There is no index; if an exact date is not known, patrons must browse through the microfilm by hand, which is very inefficient. These funds will be used to digitize and index 709 reels of microfilm of the local newspaper dating from 1904 through 2008. The searchable database will replace the deteriorating microfilm with a searchable format allowing patrons to search articles, pictures, and advertisements by keyword; view information in its historical context; preserve the look and feel of the original format; and print or email articles, photos, or ads of interest. The reference staff will be able to serve the community more effectively, both on-site and remotely, by digitizing and indexing the microfilm. This newspaper database will be an historical asset to library patrons and will provide an accessible and unique service to the community.

DIVISION E—FY2010 MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS

Project Name: Civil Engineer Maintenance Complex at Mountain Home Air Force Base

Amount Received: \$690,000

Account: Air Force Military Construction Account

Recipient: 366th Wing, Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho

Recipient's Street Address: 366 Gunfighter Avenue, Ste 107, Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho 83648

Description: The civil engineer functions are currently dispersed among 10 WWII-era wood-frame and Korean War-era facilities. Wood frame facilities have a RAC 2 due to failing roof structures and cracked and spreading concrete foundations that have contributed to failing floors and trusses, presenting risk to squadron members who work in the facilities. Currently, employees must evacuate during heavy snowfall or high winds. The fire safety deficiencies are endemic to all buildings, the patchwork electric wiring is maxed out, which increases fire risk, and the HVAC systems can't keep buildings heated and cooled. The dispersed locations and failing conditions of existing facilities adversely affects all daily Civil Engineering operations and negatively impacts the Wing's mission. This funding will be used for planning and design.

Project Name: Logistics Readiness Center

Amount Received: \$20,000,000

Account: Air Force Military Construction Account

Recipient: 366th Wing, Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho

Recipient's Street Address: 366 Gunfighter Avenue, Ste 107, Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho 83648

Description: The existing Logistics Supply is a condemned 53-year-old wooden structure beyond economical repair. The roof is held up with temporary structural supports. The building is evacuated and now 60 percent of base

supply functions operate from temporary spaces across base, creating significant delays in troop/equipment mobilization. This negatively impacts the Wing's ability to demolish and relocate from other substandard facilities on base. When funded, the Logistics Readiness Center will provide command and control for all materials in-bound and out-bound, including freight processing, packing, crating, pallet buildup shop, and provide bulk and bin storage. The facility will also support secure storage, an armory, and have administrative areas.

I appreciate the opportunity to provide a list of congressionally-directed projects in my district that have received funding in the Conference Report accompanying H.R. 3288, the FY2010 Consolidated Appropriations Act and provide an explanation of my support for them.

COMMEMORATING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF VOICE OF AMERICA IN UKRAINE

**HON. ROBERT WEXLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 10, 2009*

Mr. WEXLER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 60th anniversary of Voice of America's Ukrainian Service, which is on December 11, 2009.

As members of Congress know, Voice of America is the largest U.S. international broadcaster and plays a critically important role globally, broadcasting 1,500 hours a week of programming through various media forms spanning news, information, and educational and cultural topics, and reaching an audience of over 130 million people worldwide. Since 1942, Voice of America has filled a critical gap in regions of the world where freedom of the press is limited or does not exist.

Today, Voice of America facilitates the free-flow of information globally. It is particularly important in Ukraine, where Voice of America will be celebrating its 60 years of service.

Voice of America has been essential to advancing democratic freedoms through the free-flow of information and supporting the development of democratic institutions in Eastern Europe, including Ukraine. On the front lines of international broadcasting, VOA has provided a critical outlet for the dissemination of free, uncensored news and information throughout Ukraine in multiple languages and formats. Today close to five million Ukrainians access Voice of America's services each week. VOA's Ukrainian broadcasts have also provided valuable information to the Ukrainian people as they continue their political, economic, and democratic reform efforts and build a stronger civil society.

Today there are still many countries that do not enjoy freedom of the Press, which is an essential component of a functioning and successful democracy. Unconscionably there are governments that continue to deny their populations this basic liberty, creating conditions in which media and members of the press face censorship, intimidation, persecution, or far worse.

Voice of America is essential to American and international efforts to change the dynamics of press freedom and human rights. To that end, I want to praise VOA and its dedi-

cated staff that have worked diligently in Ukraine, and around the globe, to promote and facilitate the free and unfettered flow of information, opinions, and ideas.

Once again, I commend Voice of America on its 60 years of promoting freedom of information in Ukraine. I also want to congratulate VOA Ukrainian Service for its efforts and leadership in successfully fulfilling VOA's core mission to "promote freedom and democracy and to enhance understanding through multimedia communication of accurate, objective, balanced news, information, and other programming about America and the world to audiences overseas."

A TRIBUTE TO HERO K. TAMAKLOE

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 10, 2009*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Hero K. Tamakloe who emigrated from Togo in 1988. Mr. Tamakloe has held many jobs in New York. He's worked as a cab driver, and interned with Woodhull Hospital after working on behalf of the Togo Embassy at the United Nations. Finally, after attending York College, majoring in economics, Mr. Tamakloe decided to apply for work as a teacher with the Department of Education.

Tamakloe was assigned to P.S. 95 Q in Hollis as a substitute teacher, where he worked for two years before taking over YMCA of Greater New York's "Virtual Y" program which serves over 300 students in an after school program. Currently, Mr. Tamakloe is a YMCA of Greater New York employee and is assigned to DYCD (Department of Youth & Community Development) at New York City Housing Authority Beacon Satellite at Bushwick-Hylan and Sumner Community centers in the North Brooklyn area.

Mr. Tamakloe is regarded as one of the strongest off-site YMCA after school Directors in New York City, a reputation complimented by the awards he received. Mr. Tamakloe credits the staff, parents, teachers, mentors and volunteers who helped him to keep the After School and Beacon Programs running smoothly.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the aptly named Hero K. Tamakloe.

IN PRAISE OF THE TRANS-ATLANTIC LEGISLATORS' DIALOGUE MEETINGS HELD LAST WEEKEND IN NEW YORK CITY

**HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 10, 2009*

Mr. BERMAN. Madam Speaker, I would like to call the attention of my colleagues in the Congress to a successful meeting of the Transatlantic Legislators' Dialogue, TLD, in New York City from December 4-7, 2009. Chairwoman SHELLEY BERKLEY led a strong bipartisan delegation, which included Vice-Chairman CLIFF STEARNS, Vice-Chairman JIM

COSTA, GARY ACKERMAN, XAVIER BECERRA, DENNIS CARDOZA, JOHN DUNCAN, Jr., ELIOT ENGEL, VIRGINIA FOXX, BART GORDON, JAY INSLEE, SHEILA JACKSON-LEE, RON KLEIN and LORETTA SANCHEZ. I wish to recognize these members for their thoughtful contributions to an informed and productive exchange of views with Members of the European Parliament.

The Transatlantic Legislators' Dialogue serves as the formal response of the European Parliament and the U.S. Congress to the commitment in the New Transatlantic Agenda of 1995 to enhance legislative ties between the European Union and the United States. The TLD involves biannual meetings between American and European legislators in order to foster transatlantic discourse and exchange views on topics of mutual interest. Given the recent adoption of the Lisbon Treaty and the additional powers it provides to the European Parliament, it is even more important that legislators engage in this dialogue in order to seek joint solutions to the pressing issues facing citizens on both sides of the Atlantic.

Participants at the New York meeting held extensive discussions about the financial crisis and international trade. The debate was informed by presentations from the Obama administration, including Michael Froman, Deputy National Security Adviser for International Economic Affairs, and Mark Sobel, Acting Assistant Secretary for International Affairs at Treasury. The TLD emphasized the need for a strong and coordinated transatlantic policy response, while reiterating the importance of the Transatlantic Economic Council, TEC, as a framework for cooperation.

Considerable attention was paid to foreign policy issues. TLD participants engaged in vigorous debate about the Middle East, hearing the administration's perspective from Jeffrey Feltman, Assistant Secretary for Near Eastern Affairs. Other foreign policy debates focused on Afghanistan and Pakistan, the Iranian nuclear threat, relations with Russia, and the Balkans. These deliberations were further enhanced by the delegation's meetings on the final day of the TLD at the United Nations with Ambassador Susan Rice and Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs B. Lynn Pascoe.

In addition, the delegates talked about the challenge of climate change and energy security with Jon Wellinghoff, Chairman of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. They also discussed a range of civil liberties issues, including American travel regulations and President Obama's efforts to close Guantanamo.

In conclusion, I submit the joint statement that was agreed upon by American and European legislators at the 67th TLD meeting held in New York. This document emphasizes the importance of continued transatlantic dialogue and cooperation in jointly addressing current financial and foreign policy challenges

TRANSATLANTIC LEGISLATORS' DIALOGUE, 67TH MEETING OF DELEGATIONS FROM THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS, JOINT STATEMENT

(By Shelley Berkley, Cliff Stearns, Jim Costa, Elmar Brok, Sarah Ludford, and Niki Tzavela)

We, the Members of the European Parliament and the United States House of Representatives, held our 67th Interparliamentary meeting (Transatlantic Legislators' Dialogue) in New York City, from 4-7 December 2009.

Building on the joint statement issued following our last meeting in Prague on 18-20 April 2009, we reasserted the importance of regular dialogue on the pressing political, social and economic challenges that affect citizens on both sides of the Atlantic. We agreed to report back to our parent bodies on the content and outcome of our discussions in New York, with an emphasis on the areas where joint efforts are likely to produce positive outcomes.

The Transatlantic Legislators' Dialogue appreciated the Lisbon treaty's entry into force, with its enhancement of the powers and competences of the European Parliament in areas such as International Trade and Justice and Home Affairs, as well as the appointment of an EU President and High Representative. We expressed our desire to continue building on the political momentum created by the election of new administrations in Europe and the United States in order to further strengthen the transatlantic relationship.

We called for continued collaboration between legislators in the U.S. Congress and the European Parliament on legislation and issues of common concern, formalising lines of communication and information-sharing between EU and U.S. legislators to promote compatible legislation reflecting transatlantic cooperation through the work of the committees, in full respect for each side's sovereignty.

We discussed a wide array of international political questions such as the situations in the Middle East, Afghanistan/Pakistan, the Balkans, Russia and Iran's nuclear programme.

We also examined a wide array of issues of common interest, including global concerns relating to Energy and Climate Change, Financial Services and International Trade. We examined how the United States and the European Union could best cooperate in matters of Civil Liberties and Justice and Home Affairs.

Our conclusions are as follows:

#### INTERNATIONAL POLITICAL ISSUES

(a) Peace in the Middle East requires a durable ceasefire, an immediate and unconditional end to terrorist attacks on Israel, a functioning and effective government in the Palestinian Territories and the resumption of the obligations under the roadmap, including an end to incitement and a solution for the question of settlements. The goal is a secure Jewish state of Israel and a viable Palestinian state, living side by side.

(b) We held a strong debate exchanging a wide array of views between and within the delegations on the strategy for Afghanistan/Pakistan announced by President Obama on 1 December 2009, which provided a new impetus for renewed international commitment to confronting the ongoing challenges of security, terrorism, governance, corruption and socio-economic reconstruction. We look forward to the international conference on Afghanistan that will be held on 28 January 2010 under the auspices of the UN. The EU and the U.S. should enhance their cooperation and support, foster burden-sharing, work to improve the coordination and effectiveness of Provincial Reconstruction Teams (PRTs), and seek to help build critical infrastructure across Afghanistan. Maintaining the stability and cooperation of Pakistan is equally important as well.

(c) On Iran, the dialogue noted the recent, troubling moves by the Iranian Government regarding its nuclear programme, affirmed that a nuclear armed Iran is unacceptable and expressed its concern about the human rights situation in the country. We urge the leaders on both sides of the Atlantic to develop a common policy and unite the inter-

national community to meet this threat, including strong sanctions, if it continues to fail to comply with its international obligations in the nuclear area.

(d) Relations with Russia should involve constructive cooperation on challenges and threats, including security matters, disarmament and non-proliferation, along with respect for democratic principles including human rights standards, and adherence to international law. The dialogue expressed concerns about Russia's continued failure to comply with the 2008 ceasefire agreements with Georgia negotiated by French President Sarkozy, as well as the potential for another energy dispute with Ukraine this winter. We also cited the need to enhance mutual trust between the transatlantic partners and Russia. We welcome the ongoing U.S.-Russia negotiations on arms reduction and look forward to Russia's membership in the WTO, once those negotiations are satisfactorily completed, with all its legal obligations.

(e) Challenges remain in our efforts to integrate the Western Balkans into a united Europe. Cooperation between the United States and the European Union remains the most effective way to encourage political and economic development in Kosovo as well as to facilitate constitutional reform in Bosnia, and ensure respect for the rule of law, including cooperation with the International Criminal Tribunal for Yugoslavia, throughout the region.

#### ENERGY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

We agreed that the Copenhagen Conference is one of the biggest challenges for international cooperation. We welcomed the announcement of President Obama's personal involvement in the COP-15 Summit in Copenhagen.

We discussed the common goal to provide the necessary stimulus for sustainable economic growth, promoting green technologies and creating new jobs.

We discussed how the EU and the U.S. could work together to reach an international agreement to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by setting ambitious reduction targets for industrialised countries and identifiable actions by developing countries. We discussed cap-and-trade systems and the need to avoid incompatible emission trading systems to pave the way to a transatlantic, and ultimately a global carbon market. We noted the link between tackling climate change and addressing energy security and economic growth, recognizing that the fight against climate change could also be an opportunity to create new jobs and sustain economic growth.

We welcomed the creation of a new EU-U.S. Energy Council at the last EU-U.S. Summit in order to strengthen the dialogue on strategic energy issues of mutual interest, foster cooperation on energy policies and further improve research collaboration on sustainable and clean energy technologies. We look forward to the Energy Council deliberations feeding the TEC process and we consider this as another area where the TLD can develop further.

#### FINANCIAL CRISIS

We examined the consequences of the global economic and financial turmoil. We agreed that the crisis requires a strong and coordinated policy response by the U.S. and the EU. Recovery plans currently being adopted are critical in mitigating the effects of the crisis: approaches chosen should be compatible, strengthen financial supervision to ensure confidence in the system, avoid protectionist measures, and avoid distortions of competition in the transatlantic marketplace.

We discussed the role of international cooperation in financial regulation and super-

vision, including better crisis prevention and management, and agreed that the EU and U.S. should cooperate on the reform of international financial institutions.

We are pleased that the G-20 leaders have decided to give the emerging countries, within the International Monetary Fund, a position commensurate with their weight in today's global economy so as to ensure support for the developing world and to achieve the Millennium Development Goals.

#### CIVIL LIBERTIES, JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS

We welcomed the "Washington Declaration" on 28 October 2009 on enhancing transatlantic cooperation in the area of Justice, Freedom and Security within a context of respect for human rights and civil liberties. We expressed the hope that it will provide a framework to replace the ad hoc approach of the last decade on data collection and sharing arrangements (PNR, SWIFT, MoUs linked to visa waiver, etc.) with a more strategic approach of law enforcement and judicial cooperation through the Mutual Legal Assistance and Extradition Agreements and through developing an agreement on data protection.

We discussed President Obama's desire to close the Guantanamo detention facility within a year, taking note of the offer by several European countries to accept Guantanamo inmates and encouraging the U.S. and the EU to continue seeking joint solutions to combat terrorism.

The dialogue also discussed the EU-U.S. negotiations to extend the Visa Waiver Programme to the remaining EU member states. We hope that the U.S. visa waiver programme will be extended to all EU citizens as soon as possible, when the criteria have been met. An exchange of views took place on the recent adoption of the U.S. Travel Promotion Act.

In light of the concerns about the Safe Port Act raised by port operators and the trade community, in particular with respect to the cost/benefit ratio of the scanning requirement's possible negative effects on competitiveness and on transatlantic trade flows, we were of the view that the U.S. Administration should re-examine this legislation.

#### INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND WTO NEGOTIATIONS

We agreed that trade is as central to the EU-U.S. relationship as it is to world recovery. We call upon the European Commission and the United States to redouble their efforts to bring the Doha Round of world trade talks to a successful conclusion.

We believe that international trade can make a contribution to the restoration of world economic growth and that work to integrate and harmonise EU and U.S. trade practices will lead to a global improvement in living standards and will help secure quality jobs in both the European Union and in the United States.

We believe that participation by Congress and the European Parliament in the Parliamentary Conference of the WTO and in its Steering Committee would enhance cooperation at a global level. We, therefore, call on the leadership of both bodies to take appropriate steps in order to allow us to collaborate in this context.

#### DEVELOPMENT OF TRANSATLANTIC ECONOMIC COUNCIL

We reiterated our commitment to the Transatlantic Economic Council (TEC), stressing its utility as a framework to achieve a barrier-free market and for macro-economic cooperation between both partners. We welcomed the results of the meeting held on 27 October, particularly the extended dialogue between the Administrations with legislators that identified past challenges

and future opportunities. We discussed progress made over the past year in promoting transatlantic economic integration, including investment, accounting standards, regulatory issues, the safety of imported products, and the enforcement of intellectual property rights.

As we told our Administrations during the recent TEC meeting, transatlantic economic cooperation must be more accountable and transparent. In order to help achieve this objective, the schedules of TEC meetings, agendas, roadmaps and progress reports should be agreed upon between the core stakeholders as early as possible and then made public. Such measures are crucial to developing a clear and transparent process for setting the agenda of the TEC, extending the TEC to new sectors, and establishing a roadmap. We continued to encourage the EU and U.S. executive branches to facilitate more active participation by members of the U.S. Congress and the European Parliament in the TEC process, in particular via the TLD, especially for a pre-legislative dialogue between the respective committees of Congress and the European Parliament. TLD members should be full partners in the Transatlantic Economic and Energy Councils.

We note that on the European side, responsibility for coordinating the TEC will pass from the European Commission's Directorate-General for Enterprise and Industry to its Directorate-General for Trade. We believe that this can provide a new impetus toward removing barriers to trade and investment and on fostering competitiveness in the transatlantic market.

#### STRENGTHENING THE TLD

We agreed that a working group should come up as soon as possible with a list of concrete proposals for the further work of the TLD. We noted the recent document written by the Atlantic Council of the United States along with several other policy think tanks, entitled "Shoulder to Shoulder: Forging a Strategic U.S.-EU Partnership." We supported several of the recommendations in the document and will use them as a starting point. For example:

U.S. Members of the TLD should be drawn from both House and Senate. U.S. House members should be appointed by the Speaker of the House.

The U.S. Congress should open an office in Brussels. The office would service the TLD and monitor legislation affecting U.S. interests. We noted the European Parliament is opening an office in Washington in January 2010.

The TLD should convene a joint consultative committee on the extraterritorial implications of domestic legislation; and focus regular exchanges on upstream regulatory legislation.

The TLD should hold joint hearings and conduct joint study tours to areas of common concern, for instance to the Middle East.

The U.S. Congress and the European Parliament should ensure regular contacts between appropriate staff, not simply in foreign affairs-related work but across the board in key areas of mutual engagement.

The TLD should spearhead a new generation of internships in Congressional and European Parliament offices. Each Congressional office should offer to host one intern from the EU; each European Parliament office should offer to host one intern from the United States.

In conclusion, we reaffirmed our commitment to strengthening the transatlantic relationship and working in partnership to solve common challenges. We pledged to continue improving the effectiveness of our dialogue in order to realize the full potential of

our invaluable interparliamentary relationship, as well as to ensure the relevance of the TLD's work to the European Parliament and the United States Congress.

#### RECOGNIZING BETTY SALTER FOR RECEIVING THE HABITAT FOR HUMANITY INTERNATIONAL LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

#### HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 10, 2009

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Betty Salter upon being awarded the Habitat for Humanity International Lifetime Achievement Award. Betty has dedicated her life to serving others, and I am proud to honor her service and commitment to the community.

Betty Salter is one of the founders of the Pensacola Habitat for Humanity and has served on the Board of Directors for 28 years. In the early years of the Pensacola affiliate, Betty served as chairman of the Family Selection Committee. In the late 1980's, when the affiliate could not afford to hire a director, she answered the call and volunteered as the Executive Director of Pensacola Habitat. Twenty years later, Betty remains the volunteer Executive Director. She and her husband James, also a volunteer, work six days a week building houses for low income families.

When Betty took over as Executive Director, the Pensacola Habitat for Humanity had built a total of four homes. Five years later, under Betty's leadership, house production jumped to twenty per year. Today, the affiliate builds between 55 and 60 homes each year. Betty's enthusiasm, energy, and generosity have motivated thousands of volunteers in our community to donate their time and their money in support of Habitat for Humanity. In 2004 and 2005, Betty helped lead the Pensacola affiliate through Hurricanes Ivan and Dennis, making sure projects continued as scheduled.

In addition to her service with Habitat for Humanity, Betty has been dedicated to all forms of housing assistance over the years. She served on the Board of Directors for Methodist Homes of Alabama and West Florida. She also served on the Board of the Children's Services Center for over twenty years. Betty has been awarded numerous honors over the years from many charity organizations. This year, Habitat for Humanity chose Betty as one of only four volunteers to award the first Habitat for Humanity International Lifetime Achievement Award.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am honored to recognize Betty Salter for her service to the people of Northwest Florida. She is a dedicated community servant who has sacrificed so much for others in need. My wife Vicki and I wish all the best for continued success to Betty and her husband James, children Gail and Jane, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and entire extended family.

#### TRIBUTE TO LOVELY HILL BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

#### HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 10, 2009

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Lovely Hill Baptist Association in recognition and celebration of its rich history and tremendous impact in South Carolina. On December 12, 2009 this 108-year-old organization will celebrate Founders' Day for the very first time.

This organization held its first meeting in 1901 at Lovely Hill Baptist Church in Smoaks, South Carolina. Three years later, they were chartered under the name of Lovely Hill Baptist Educational Congress to reflect their mission to provide for the education of African American youth who weren't allowed to attend public schools. In 1918 the group purchased more than 34 acres to build the first school for black children in the St. George area. Once public schools were integrated, the land was used for the county fair.

In 1932, the organization's mission had grown, and to broaden its scope, officially became known as the Lovely Hill Baptist Association. Sixty years later, Lovely Hill Baptist Association was incorporated, and today, 22 churches are members. In 1999, the association broke ground for the construction of a new conference center on the site of the original school. Construction was completed in 2005, and today the facility provides a much needed center for community activities in St. George and surrounding areas.

The association has several auxiliaries including the Sunday School Congress of Christian Education, the Lovely Hill Women's Auxiliary/Young Women's Auxiliary, the Ushers' Convention, the Brotherhood Convention, and the Youth Convention.

Over the years, a number of moderators have served the Association faithfully—Reverends Cogger H. Haygood, J.M. Marshall, S.D. Rickenbacker, and T.E. Sanders. The current moderator of the Association is my good friend, Reverend Dr. S.B. Marshall, who is ably assisted by the 1st vice-moderator, Reverend McKinley Ravenel, and 2nd vice-moderator, Reverend Floyd Wright.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me today in recognizing this organization that has contributed so much to the faith community in South Carolina. For more than a century, the Lovely Hill Baptist Association has provided excellent spiritual leadership and Christian education to the citizens of my congressional district. I applaud their rich history and significant contributions to countless numbers of my constituents. And I congratulate them on their inaugural Founders' Day and wish them Godspeed!

#### TRIBUTE TO DR. A. ZACHARY YAMBA

#### HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 10, 2009

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, I would like to ask my colleagues here in the United States



House of Representatives to join me as I rise to honor and congratulate Dr. A. Zachary Yamba on his retirement from Essex County College. He is the longest serving college president in the State of New Jersey, and the longest sitting President of a predominantly black serving institution of higher education in the nation.

After serving 29 years as President, Dr. Yamba will retire December 4, 2009. Under Dr. Yamba's leadership, Essex County College has experienced unprecedented stability and growth. Enrollment at the College has increased from 7,500 students in 1980 to a record 25,000 students in 2009.

Within a year of his appointment, Essex County College was awarded full accreditation for a 10 year period, a status that was reaffirmed in 1991 and 2001. Over the next 29 years Dr. Yamba demonstrated a commitment to providing quality education to under-represented populations, and ultimately redefined the role of urban higher education in the State of New Jersey and the nation.

Dr. Yamba has positioned Essex County College to be one of the major factors in the movement to grant students of color greater access to higher education. Through his efforts, Essex County College stands in the top 1% of the nation for awarding African American Associate degrees. In addition, Essex County College is the number one Community College in New Jersey for awarding African American Associate degrees and is the number one institution in New Jersey for educating African American students.

Dr. Yamba's inter-generational influence has made an indelible mark on the educational tapestry of the City of Newark, and the State New Jersey. Dr. Yamba became a beacon of hope, accountability and excellence for the mission of urban community colleges. Without his contribution, it is clear that Essex County College and urban community colleges everywhere, would not be as dynamic or academically sound as they are today. He is Regent Emeritus on the Board of Regents of Seton Hall University, was inducted into its Athletic Hall of Fame (Soccer) and has also been awarded an honorary doctorate degree. Additionally, he holds honorary degrees from Rutgers University and the University for Development Students in Ghana.

Madam Speaker, I know my colleagues agree that Dr. Yamba has made a significant impact on the educational system in New Jersey, and the nation. He will leave a lasting impression on those who were fortunate enough to benefit from his guidance. I am honored to have worked with him for a number of years, and I wish him a wonderful retirement.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE  
COST ESTIMATE FOR H.R. 3963

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 10, 2009

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, in accordance with the House Report 111-345, I submit the Congressional Budget Office Cost Estimate for H.R. 3963.

DECEMBER 1, 2009.

Hon. BENNIE G. THOMPSON,  
Chairman, Committee on Homeland Security,  
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has prepared the enclosed cost estimate for H.R. 3963, the Criminal Investigative Training Restoration Act.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contact is Megan Carroll.

Sincerely,

DOUGLAS W. ELMENDORF.

Enclosure.

H.R. 3963—*Criminal Investigative Training Restoration Act*

H.R. 3963 would direct the Federal Air Marshal Service (FAMS) to require newly hired marshals to complete a training program in criminal investigative techniques. The bill would authorize the appropriation of at least \$3 million in each of fiscal years 2010 and 2011 for that purpose.

Based on information from DHS about the anticipated number of new employees and costs to train them, CBO estimates that \$6 million would be sufficient to establish and operate the proposed training program. Assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, CBO estimates that fully funding H.R. 3963 would cost \$2 million in 2010 and \$6 million over the 2010-2014 period. Enacting the bill would not affect direct spending or revenues.

H.R. 3963 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact for this estimate is Megan Carroll. This estimate was approved by Theresa Gullo, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

A TRIBUTE TO MR. FRANK G.  
FORGIONE, SR.

**HON. STENY H. HOYER**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 10, 2009

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a longtime constituent of mine, Frank G. Forgione, Sr., for his outstanding dedication to music, service, and country.

From his earliest days, Frank—the son of two musicians—demonstrated an appreciation and recognition of the power of music. At age 11 he began studying music with Frank Holt, a percussionist for noted bandmaster and composer John Philip Sousa. At the encouragement of his instructors, he auditioned and was accepted into the Navy School of Music here in Washington in 1938.

In December 1941, Frank was stationed at Pearl Harbor aboard the USS *Oglala*. During the attack of December 7, the *Oglala* fell victim to the Japanese attack and sank. Fortunately, Frank was able to make it to a dock. He often said that every day he lived after that was a gift.

In 1951, he became head of the percussion department at his alma mater, the Navy School of Music. Just 10 years later, he founded and led the U.S. Navy Special Show Band—the first Navy Show Band—on a tour in South America. Called the Navy's Goodwill Ambassadors, the band toured through South America during a period of unrest.

When the band encountered anti-American sentiment or threats at their shows, Frank directed the band to perform, believing that the universality of music would be enough to win over the crowd. More often than not, his instincts proved correct. The band went on to make several more tours throughout South America and the rest of the world.

Frank Forgione's service did not go unnoticed. He became the first musician since John Philip Sousa to receive the Secretary of the Navy's Commendation Medal.

In 1972, Frank retired with the rank of Chief Warrant Officer. Retirement did not ebb his desire to serve. Inspired by his tours in South America, Frank dedicated himself to relieving the poverty he witnessed while on the continent. For the next 16 years, he enlisted many national corporations to donate food, educational materials, medicine, and other essential supplies to help improve the living conditions for those less fortunate.

In addition, Frank continued fulfilling his love of music. He created the Fort Washington Continentals, an award-winning youth drum corps located in Prince Georges County. The corps was selected to lead Washington's Bicentennial Parade.

At age 70, Frank became bandmaster for the New York Military Academy in Cornwall-on-Hudson, touring extensively throughout the United States, Europe, and Australia. While there he was given the honorary rank of Army Colonel. He retired again in 2005 at the age of 87. Though Frank passed away on July 27, 2009, it is undeniable that his spirit and appreciation for music have remained with those he touched throughout his life.

Madam Speaker, Frank G. Forgione, Sr. was blessed with the gift of music and committed to serving others. He helped to make the U.S. Navy, the State of Maryland, and communities throughout the world a better place. I urge my colleagues to join with me in paying tribute to this extraordinary individual for a life well lived and in offering sincerest condolences to his friends and family on their loss.

HONORING DALE E. HANINGTON

**HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD**

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 10, 2009

Mr. MICHAUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of Dale Hanington of Benton, ME.

Dale Hanington has served the trucking industry for the past two decades, with the last 17 as the president and CEO of the Maine Motor Transport Association, MMTA. During his long and distinguished career, Dale has admirably represented the transportation industry by promoting highway safety and tirelessly advocating for sound public policy affecting members of the MMTA.

Dale's insistence on integrity and the honest sincerity of his approach has gained him the respect of those who have worked with him, both in the trucking industry and during his career with the Maine State Police. It is his unwavering character and consistent advocacy for highway safety that led to his nomination by the Governor to serve on every Maine's Motor Carrier Review Board since its inception. Dale has never taken this reasonability



lightly, and has always dedicated his time and expertise to the group's role of reviewing the records of motor carriers with significant and repeated violations and ensuring that proper steps are taken to mitigate safety risks.

His many accomplishments while at the MMTA include increasing the association's strength to over 1,200 companies, as well as adding valuable services for the benefit of the membership. On a personal note, Dale has been a long time and trusted adviser of mine when it comes to the issue of truck weights in Maine. He has worked tirelessly with me and the entire Maine congressional delegation to advocate for a fix to the problem. We are getting closer to a permanent solution and we have Dale and his advocacy to thank for it.

Prior to his leadership at the MMTA, Dale graduated from the Northwestern Traffic Institute and served for 20 years with the Maine State Police, achieving the rank of lieutenant by the end of his career. He is actively involved in community and fraternal organizations such as the Freemasons, the Order of the Eastern Star, the Order of the Amaranth and he spent many years as a Scout Master for the Boy Scouts. Dale and his wife Jean are also very active in the First Baptist Church of Fairfield.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring Dale Hanington for his life of dedication and service to his community and his country.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF JOHN WARREN COOKE

#### HON. FRANK R. WOLF—

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 10, 2009

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I rise to share with our colleagues the recent passing of John Warren Cooke, former speaker of the Virginia House of Delegates. He died on November 28, 2009, at the age of 94.

Born on February 28, 1915, in Mathews, Virginia, Speaker Cooke had a long history of service to Virginia, spending almost 4 decades in the House of Delegates from 1942 to 1980. After serving as the Democratic majority leader for 12 years, he became Speaker in 1968. He was well regarded on both sides of the aisle and considered a true gentleman.

After retiring from the Virginia House of Delegates, Speaker Cooke returned to his hometown to continue serving as the publisher of the Gloucester-Mathews Gazette Journal, as he had done since 1954.

Speaker Cooke's father, Major Giles B. Cooke, served on the general staff of General Robert E. Lee during the Civil War. As a 26-year-old, Major Cooke was on Lee's staff at Appomattox.

As the ninth generation of his family to serve in the Virginia General Assembly and one of the last living Americans with a father in the Civil War, Speaker Cooke will surely be missed by the people of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

I submit an obituary for Speaker Cooke published in The Washington Post on December 2.

[From the Washington Post, Dec. 2, 2009]

COURTLY, POWERFUL SPEAKER OF VA. HOUSE FOR 12 YEARS

(By Matt Schudel)

John Warren Cooke, 94, who served 12 years as the quietly influential speaker of the Vir-

ginia House of Delegates, died Nov. 28 at his home in the Mathews County town of Gloucester. The cause of death could not be learned.

Mr. Cooke, the last member of the Virginia legislature who was the son of a Confederate veteran, was the Democratic majority leader in the House of Delegates for 12 years before becoming speaker in 1968. He exercised his authority with a courtly demeanor and a gentle hand but was, as described in a 1979 Washington Post article, "one of the state's most powerful but little-noticed officials."

He served in the House of Delegates from 1942 to 1980, when Virginia was struggling with integration and changing from its Democratic, rural roots to a more urban and Republican-leaning state. Among other achievements, Mr. Cooke helped bring a new bipartisan spirit to Richmond by appointing Republicans to key committees for the first time in the legislature's history.

Until 1969, Virginia's legislators had no offices and conducted their business from their desks and briefcases. As speaker, Mr. Cooke had absolute authority to appoint the 100 members of the House to committees as he saw fit. His committee choices, usually based on seniority, could affect the direction and tone of legislation and whether it reached the full House for a vote.

Mr. Cooke, known as "John Warren," was well liked and was praised by his colleagues as "the soul of fairness."

A 1970 Post story said Mr. Cooke's "geniality" and "quick dry wit" served him well in politics: "He guides smoothly and skillfully, he is courteous, he is a gentleman down to his toes—and he is very, very popular."

Mr. Cooke was considered a possible gubernatorial candidate in 1969 and 1973, but he bowed out of the races to remain in the House, representing a Tidewater district north of Williamsburg.

In 1972, as the Democratic speaker, he helped arrange a compromise between contentious factions of the Democratic-controlled legislature and Republican governor Linwood Holton to institute a sweeping reorganization of the state government.

John Warren Cooke was born Feb. 28, 1915, in Mathews, Va. His father, who was 76 when his son was born, was an Episcopal priest who had served on Gen. Robert E. Lee's staff during the Civil War.

Mr. Cooke attended the Virginia Military Institute and returned to his home town to work for the Gloucester-Mathews Gazette-Journal. He was publisher of the weekly newspaper from 1954 until March of this year and was president of the old Tidewater Baseball League.

Survivors include his wife of 62 years, Anne Brown Rawn Cooke of Mathews; and two children, Giles Buckner Cooke III of Williamsburg and Elsa VanNess Verbyla of Mathews.

#### HONORING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI'S HISPANIC-AMERICAN CULTURAL INSTITUTE

#### HON. ILEANA ROS-LEH TINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 10, 2009

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, I would like to congratulate the Hispanic-American Cultural Institute of the Koubek Center of the University of Miami on their 25th anniversary.

The Hispanic-American Cultural Institute is part of the University of Miami's Division of

Continuing and International Education, which was founded in 1984 by Mr. Pablo Chao.

The Institute's primary mission is to offer cultural and academic services to elderly professionals who wish to remain active. The good work done by the Institute has helped countless individuals in our South Florida community. The Institute has offered conferences in various academic disciplines, which have been hosted by recognized educators, writers and leaders of the Hispanic community.

I congratulate the extraordinary leadership of the center's president for the past 10 years, Mr. Manuel I. Muñiz, and Director Chao on the Institute's 25th anniversary. The Hispanic-American Cultural Institute is a valued part of our community. I am sure that the Institute will continue to allow individuals to pursue their academic dreams regardless of age, as well as be a forum where the brightest minds of the Hispanic community can shine.

#### RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF JERRY EUBANKS

#### HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 10, 2009

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Jerry Eubanks upon his retirement from the United States National Park Service. Jerry has been a life-long public servant, and I am humbled to honor his service and commitment.

A native of McCool, Mississippi, Jerry joined the National Park Service in 1960 after graduating from Mississippi State University with a degree in Civil Engineering. Since joining the Park Service, he has worked across the country from Missouri to California to Virginia to preserve and protect America's national parks. In 1976, Jerry became Assistant Superintendent of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Tennessee and North Carolina. Jerry moved to the Gulf Coast in 1984 to serve as Superintendent of the Gulf Islands National Seashore, where he has remained ever since.

As Superintendent of the Gulf Islands National Seashore, Jerry has worked tirelessly to ensure the protection and viability of our area's natural resources and beauty. Over the past 25 years, he has led the park through numerous organizational and operational changes, resulting in substantial natural, cultural, and recreational program improvements. Among his many successes, Jerry helped lead recovery efforts during several damaging hurricanes including Hurricane Ivan in 2004 and Hurricane Katrina in 2005. He was able to bring operations back online quickly after the storms, ensuring the repair and protection of damaged resources and the restoration of major infrastructure. For his efforts over the course of his career, Jerry has received numerous awards for exemplary service including the Department of the Interior Meritorious Service Award in 2000.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am honored to recognize Jerry Eubanks for his service to Northwest Florida. He is a dedicated community leader who will be sorely missed after his retirement. My wife Vicki and I wish all the best for continued success to Jerry and his wife Anne, his

children, grandchildren, and entire extended family.

CONGRATULATING DENNIS K. BURKE ON HIS INVESTITURE AS THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY FOR THE DISTRICT OF ARIZONA

**HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 10, 2009*

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dennis K. Burke on his investiture as the United States Attorney for the District of Arizona.

I have had the honor of knowing and working with Dennis for many years on numerous issues. I have supreme confidence that his long and distinguished law enforcement career and record of public service will serve Arizona's 8 million residents extremely well as he faces his newest and most important challenge.

Most recently, Dennis held one of the most important behind-the-scenes roles in Arizona state government as Chief of Staff for Governor Janet Napolitano. He also assisted Napolitano in her transition to Secretary of Homeland Security, serving as a senior advisor. He also worked in the Arizona Attorney General's Office and as an Assistant U.S. Attorney in the District of Arizona, where he prosecuted drug trafficking cases and organized crime. In addition, Dennis has served in the Department of Justice, as a staff member on the Senate Judiciary Committee and at the White House.

Because of this truly impressive record of accomplishment and service, I was elated when President Barack Obama nominated Dennis earlier this year. Madame Speaker, please join me in congratulating Dennis Burke and wishing him well as he takes on the challenge of leading the District of Arizona as its newest U.S. Attorney.

HONORING TROUSDALE COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL YELLOW JACKETS ON WINNING THE 2009 TSSAA CLASS 2A FOOTBALL STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. BART GORDON**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 10, 2009*

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 2009 Trousdale County High School Yellow Jackets for winning the TSSAA Class 2A State Football Championship.

I congratulate these young men for their hard work and dedication. It takes teamwork and sacrifice from each individual for a team to succeed. The Yellow Jackets 12-1 season ended with them defeating the Buccaneers 13-7 in the Blue Cross Bowl on Saturday.

I commend Trousdale County High School Head Coach Kevin Creasy and Assistant Coaches Jackie Dillehay, Jason Dobbs, Brandon Eden, Hal Hailey, Ben Johnson, Adam Keeton, Steve McClain, and Ronnie White.

I congratulate each player of the 2009 Class 2A State Champion Yellow Jacket Football

Team: T.J. Seay, Jordan Harper, Tacola Seay, Hunter Murphree, Craig Brown, Dre Crenshaw, Brent Ford, Dillon Young, Joe Sanders, Devon Turczyn, Seth Calhoun, Josh Payne, Mack Sanders, Tyler Edwards, Marcelly Smith, Joey Cox, Garrett Crafton, Dakota Stovall, Demarius Smith, Kale Satterfield, Victor Hardwick, Spencer Minor, Alex Gregory, Kyle Gregory, Austin Bode, Chase Roberson, Zach Scruggs, Joseph Phillips, Kyle Satterfield, Mitch Merryman, Cody Belcher, Baylor DeLeusomme, Marty Bottom, Shawn Melton, Hunter Kelley, Michael Harper, David Minor, Jordan Holder, Ned Dias, Koryay Smith, and Ben Stadter.

HONORING JOHN WARREN COOKE—

**HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 10, 2009*

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise to share with our colleagues the recent passing of John Warren Cooke, former speaker of the Virginia House of Delegates.

On November 28, 2009, I and many others around the Commonwealth were saddened to hear of the passing of former Speaker of the House of Delegates, John Warren Cooke.

Speaker Cooke served in the House of Delegates, representing much of the Middle Peninsula from 1942–79 and was its Speaker from 1968 until his retirement.

His dedication and service touched countless citizens of the Commonwealth not only through his work in the General Assembly, but also as publisher of the Gloucester-Mathews Gazette-Journal.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Speaker Cooke's family as we all mourn his passing.

HONORING TEXAS ATTORNEY  
DAVID GROVE

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 10, 2009*

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, today the Second District of Texas recognizes attorney David Grove for being awarded the Mickey F. Mehaffy Award from the Jefferson County Bar Association, given each year to honor an attorney for their exceptional pro bono work. He has worked tirelessly to help less fortunate citizens find representation in the court of law.

David was born in Midland and attended the Baylor University School of Law. In 1978, after spending a summer as a law clerk in Beaumont, he returned to Jefferson County as an Assistant District Attorney. He joined a private firm 6 years later and started his solo practice in 1999.

David always donated his time and attention to pro bono work, however, he saw the need for it escalate after the double shot of Hurricane Rita in 2005 and Hurricane Ike in 2008. Both of these hurricanes caused immense damage across Southeast Texas and Southwest Louisiana. This left many residents with damage claims against insurance companies who could not afford representation.

David is a leading advocate for the indigent, making sure they are treated fairly. He also donates a large amount of time to helping families through divorces or child custody cases. He realizes that some people do not have the resources available to defend themselves, their family, or their home, and he makes sure they have equal representation.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the Second Congressional District and all of Southeast Texas, I want to congratulate David Grove for this wonderful accomplishment. Through his diligent efforts and dedication he has given a voice to many who thought they had none.

EARMARK DECLARATION

**HON. SPENCER BACHUS**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 10, 2009*

Mr. BACHUS. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding funding that I requested as part of the H.R. 3288, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2010.

Requesting Member: Congressman SPENCER BACHUS

Bill Number: H.R. 3288—the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2010

Account: Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Juvenile Justice

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Alabama Department of Public Safety

Address of Requesting Entity: Post Office Box 1511 Montgomery AL, 36102-1511

Description of Request: Provide \$150,000 for efforts to target the investigation, arrest, and prosecution of child sexual predators in the State of Alabama. Funding will be used for additional personnel and equipment. These funds will allow the investigation and prosecution of child sexual exploitation. The FY 1998 Justice Appropriations Act directed DOJ to create a national network of state and local law enforcement cyber units to investigate cases of child sexual exploitation; this funding will help the State of Alabama to fulfill that mission. The project's total budget is \$500,000. Specifically within the budget, \$225,000 will go toward permanent personnel salaries, \$110,600 for fringe benefits, \$75,000 for travel and training and \$25,000 for equipment. This request is consistent with the intended and authorized purpose of the Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs—Juvenile Justice Account. The Alabama Department of Public Safety will meet or exceed all statutory requirements for matching funds where applicable.

Requesting Member: Congressman SPENCER BACHUS

Bill Number: H.R. 3288—the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2010

Account: Department of Justice, Department of Justice, OJP—Byrne Discretionary Grants

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Alabama Department of Public Safety

Address of Requesting Entity: Post Office Box 1511 Montgomery AL, 36102-1511

Description of Request: Provide \$1,000,000 for the Alabama Department of Public Safety/Alabama Bureau of Investigation Cyber Crimes Unit, Alabama Fusion Center and the University of Alabama at Birmingham will partner with Alabama District Attorneys Association in a multi-pronged approach to investigate

and prosecute financial cyber crimes within Alabama. Staff will be hired to conduct computer research and monitor the phishing sites, train law enforcement agencies in analysis and investigative techniques as related to phishing, and conduct analysis and investigation into leads generated by the UAB Computer Forensics Department. This project will protect citizens from predatory actions such as cyber scams. Not only will more criminals be brought to justice but the victims will have a better chance of recovering losses. This will help protect financial institutions against fraud and lessen potential demands on the FDIC fund. The project's total budget is \$3,215,585. Specifically within the budget, for the Alabama District Attorney's Association \$225,000 will go toward personnel, \$154,334 for fringe benefits, \$60,000 for travel, \$75,000 for supplies, \$237,100 for equipment and \$150,000 for other expenses; for the University of Alabama at Birmingham Association \$364,639 will go toward personnel, \$65,659 for fringe benefits, \$50,000 for travel, \$51,000 for tuition and health insurance, \$210,000 for equipment and \$289,997 indirect costs; and for the Alabama Department of Public Safety \$238,968 will go toward personnel, \$103,981 for fringe benefits, \$60,907 for travel, \$50,000 for supplies, \$200,000 for equipment and \$80,000 for other expenses. This request is consistent with the intended and authorized purpose of the Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs—Ju Byrne Discretionary Grants. The Alabama Department of Public Safety will meet or exceed all statutory requirements for matching funds where applicable.

Requesting Member: Congressman SPENCER BACHUS

Bill Number: H.R. 3288—the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2010

Account: Department of Justice, Department of Justice, COPS-Meth

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Alabama District Attorney's Association—Office of Prosecution Services

Address of Requesting Entity: 515 South Perry Street Montgomery AL, 36104

Description of Request: Zerometh is Alabama's reaction to the destructive force of today's meth epidemic. Its purpose is to expose meth and its deadly consequences to teens and young adults (12–24). The goal is to stop a potential first-time user from ever trying the drug, while encouraging everyone to look for the warning signs and support treatment. The funding will be used to purchase media and develop presentations. Meth use is a national epidemic that requires attention at all levels, but education will be the critical step to slowing down the rate of addiction to the powerful job. Zerometh has a distinctly federal goal in its mission to educate young people as to the dangers of Meth and the impact it can have on their life. The project's total budget is \$1,000,000. Specifically within the budget, \$830,000 will go toward advertising and media expenses, \$50,000 for meth education presentations, \$55,000 for administration and training and \$65,000 for equipment, supplies and printing. This request is consistent with the intended and authorized purpose of the Department of Justice, COPS-Meth Account. The Alabama District Attorney's Association—Office of Prosecution Services will meet or exceed all statutory requirements for matching funds where applicable.

# EARMARK DECLARATION

## HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 10, 2009

Mrs. EMERSON. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the House Republican standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information in regards to H.R. 3288.

Requesting Member: Rep. JO ANN EMERSON  
Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: Surface Transportation Priorities

Requesting Entity: Missouri Department of Transportation

Address of Requesting Entity: 105 West Capitol, P.O. Box 270, Jefferson City, MO 65102–0270

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$650,000 for an environmental study, engineering design work, and construction work on Route 25 in Jackson, Missouri. The funds will be used to alleviate traffic and dangerous conditions on Route 25 between Jackson Trail and the city limits of Jackson, Missouri. The State of Missouri will provide 20% match. All federal funds received will be spent on Route 25 in Jackson, Missouri and will not be transferred to another project.

Requesting Member: Rep. JO ANN EMERSON  
Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: Surface Transportation Priorities

Requesting Entity: Missouri Department of Transportation

Address of Requesting Entity: 105 West Capitol, P.O. Box 270, Jefferson City, MO 65102–0270

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$500,000 for the expansion of four-lane highway south of Poplar Bluff, Missouri to south of Route 160. The funds would also be used to rehabilitate dangerous intersections on Route 67 at U.S. 160, as well as Missouri Highway 158. The State of Missouri will provide 20% match. All federal funds received will be spent on this project and will not be transferred to another project.

Requesting Member: Rep. JO ANN EMERSON  
Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: Surface Transportation Priorities

Requesting Entity: Missouri Department of Transportation

Address of Requesting Entity: 105 West Capitol, P.O. Box 270, Jefferson City, MO 65102–0270

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$500,000 to rehabilitate the Chester Bridge which transverses the Mississippi River from Perry County, Missouri to Randolph County, Illinois. The bridge is vital to the region's transportation needs. The State of Missouri will provide 20% to match the federal contribution. All federal funds received will be spent on rehabilitation of the Chester Bridge and will not be transferred to another project.

Requesting Member: Rep. JO ANN EMERSON  
Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: Economic Development Initiatives

Requesting Entity: Washington County, Missouri

Address of Requesting Entity: 102 N. Missouri Street, Potosi, MO 63664

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$300,000 for renovations to make the Washington County, Missouri building accessible to individuals with disabilities. The Washington County building is outdated; many sec-

tions are inaccessible to individuals in wheelchairs. The federal funds would provide the means for Washington County to bring the building in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Requesting Member: Rep. JO ANN EMERSON  
Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: Surface Transportation Priorities

Requesting Entity: Missouri Department of Transportation

Address of Requesting Entity: 105 West Capitol, P.O. Box 270, Jefferson City, MO 65102–0270

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$500,000 for right of way improvements and engineering design to the narrow portion of Route 63 in Phelps and Maries Counties. This project will improve the overall safety of the roadway. The State of Missouri will provide 20% to match the federal contribution. All federal funds received will be spent on right of way improvements and engineering design. None of these funds will be transferred to another project.

Requesting Member: Rep. JO ANN EMERSON  
Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: Transportation & Community & System Preservation

Requesting Entity: Missouri Department of Transportation

Address of Requesting Entity: 105 West Capitol, P.O. Box 270, Jefferson City, MO 65102–0270

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$500,000 to improve shoulders, as well as widen and straighten curves along Route 34 in Cape Girardeau and Bollinger Counties. This segment of Route 34 is heavily traveled by commuters and there are serious safety concerns with the roadway. The State of Missouri will provide 20% to match the federal contribution. All federal funds received will be spent on improving Route 34. None of these funds will be transferred to another project.

Requesting Member: Rep. JO ANN EMERSON  
Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: OJP-Byrne

Requesting Entity: Southeast Missouri Network Against Sexual Violence

Address of Requesting Entity: #69 Doctors' Park, Suite C, Cape Girardeau, MO 63703

Description of Request: To provide an earmark of \$200,000 to the Southeast Missouri Network Against Sexual Violence (SEMO NASV) to equip and staff an office in the Bootheel of Missouri to assist victims of domestic and sexual violence, as well as support local law enforcement investigations. SEMO NASV provides services to over 700 adult and child victims of sexual and physical abuse. The organization serves a 10-county region in Southeastern Missouri. It plays a vital role in the process of convicting sex offenders and provides counseling and other services to victims. The funds will be spent as follows: \$126,000 for personnel, \$59,000 for equipment, \$12,000 for office space, and \$3,000 for training and travel.

Requesting Member: Rep. JO ANN EMERSON  
Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: COPS-Meth

Requesting Entity: Southeast Missouri Drug Task Force

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 1763, Sikeston, Missouri 63801

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$200,000 to supplement and support operations of the Southeast Missouri Drug Task

Force (SEMO DTF). SEMO DTF is a multi-jurisdictional drug task force unit that serves a 10-county area of Southeast Missouri. The unit conducts both covert and overt investigations into the possession, manufacture, and distribution of controlled substances. The funds will be spent as follows: \$32,000 for personnel, \$89,000 for overtime compensation, \$66,000 for equipment, \$4,500 for telecommunication services, \$6,000 for supplies, and \$2,500 for personnel expenses.

Requesting Member: Rep. JO ANN EMERSON  
 Bill Number: H.R. 3288  
 Account: COPS-Meth  
 Requesting Entity: Mineral Area Drug Task Force/City of Leadington, Missouri  
 Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 349, Farmington, MO 63640

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$200,000 to assist with funding Mineral Area Drug Task Force's enforcement efforts in locating, dismantling, and reducing the number of methamphetamine laboratories within the area of their operation. Approximately \$124,000 is for the purchase of equipment to assist officers in their investigations, \$36,000 is for overtime for officers assigned to methamphetamine investigations, \$16,000 is for office and field supplies to assist officers in the preparation of reports and to provide supplies to facilitate the processing of clandestine labs, and \$24,000 is for travel and training to equip officers with the knowledge to efficiently perform their duties.

Requesting Member: Rep. JO ANN EMERSON  
 Bill Number: H.R. 3288  
 Account: COPS-Meth  
 Requesting Entity: Howell County, Missouri  
 Address of Requesting Entity: 1106 Missouri Avenue, West Plains, Missouri 65775

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$250,000 for the South Central Drug Task Force to enhance drug enforcement in project area. South Central Drug Task Force is a multi-jurisdictional drug enforcement task force, and an existing HIDTA initiative within Midwest HIDTA, comprised of federal, state, and local law enforcement officers including nine Sheriff's Departments, Municipal Police Departments, Missouri State Highway Patrol, United States Forest Service, and United States Park Service. Approximately \$50,000 in overtime funding for existing narcotics officers; \$122,500 for technical surveillance and reporting equipment; \$65,000 for civilian personnel/Intel analyst; and \$12,500 for consumable supplies.

Requesting Member: Rep. JO ANN EMERSON  
 Bill Number: H.R. 3288  
 Account: COPS-Law Enforcement Technology  
 Requesting Entity: St. Francois County, Missouri

Address of Requesting Entity: 102 Industrial Drive, Park Hills, MO 63601

Description of Request: Provide an earmark for the Southeast Missouri Law Enforcement District for \$697,000 project for the following counties of the 8th Congressional District to acquire and greatly benefit from availability of a Law Enforcement Visual Tool: Iron, Washington, and Bollinger. Federal, state, and local agencies will have a common tool to jointly manage emergencies. The project enhances public safety, officer safety, by placing sophisticated geospatial intelligence information in the hands of emergency responders. The funding would be used as follows: \$12,000 for

project administration, \$675,000 for image libraries, and \$10,000 for equipment.

Requesting Member: Rep. JO ANN EMERSON  
 Bill Number: H.R. 3288  
 Account: HRSA  
 Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Ozarks Medical Center

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 1100, West Plains, MO 65775

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$500,000 for equipment in a new and expanded Emergency Department.

Requesting Member: Rep. JO ANN EMERSON  
 Bill Number: H.R. 3288  
 Account: HRSA

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Southeast Missouri State University

Address of Requesting Entity: One University Plaza, MS 1900, Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$205,000 for the Southeast Health on Wheels (SHOW) Mobile Program. The SHOW Mobile initiative is a health literacy, health promotional and disease prevention and primary health and dental care program designed to serve Southeast Missouri. The program is administered by the College of Health and Human Services of Southeast Missouri State University.

Requesting Member: Rep. JO ANN EMERSON  
 Bill Number: H.R. 3288  
 Account: Higher Education FIPSE

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Southeast Missouri State University

Address of Requesting Entity: One University Plaza, Cape Girardeau, MO 63701

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$500,000 to expand the services of Kent Library into a modern Information Commons concept and to link the same technical and support services that this renovation will provide to the students, faculty, and staff on the main campus, to the students and faculty on the River Campus, four regional campuses and the community within the University's service region.

Requesting Member: Rep. JO ANN EMERSON  
 Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: Higher Education FIPSE

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Three Rivers Community College

Address of Requesting Entity: 2080 Three Rivers Boulevard, Poplar Bluff, MO 63901

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$215,000 to upgrade the delivery and management of on-line learning system. This enhancement will make it possible to rapidly expand education/training programs, and the initiation of on-line degree programs.

Requesting Member: Rep. JO ANN EMERSON  
 Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: HHS, Social Services

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Susanna Wesley Family Learning Center, Inc.

Address of Requesting Entity: 207 N. Washington St., Box 249, East Prairie, MO 63845

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$250,000 for the Susanna Wesley Family Learning Center's Positive Alternative System Strategies to Work, or "Pass to Work," which will provide families with activities designed to emphasize good academic and healthy physical performance for at-risk children. In addition, this program will offer employment training, career counseling, and health behavior advice.

Requesting Member: Rep. JO ANN EMERSON

Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: HRSA

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Missouri State University

Address of Requesting Entity: 901 S. National, Springfield, MO 65897

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$250,000 for nursing and allied technology enhancements, specifically to create nursing clinical simulation laboratories at the West Plains campus to support their nursing and allied health programs.

Requesting Member: Rep. JO ANN EMERSON  
 Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: SBA—Salaries and Expenses

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: University of Missouri System, Columbia, MO

Address of Requesting Entity: University Hall, 1100 Carrie Francke Drive, Columbia MO, 65211

Description of Request: \$249,000 is provided for the University of Missouri's Extension Community Economic and Entrepreneurial Development (ExCEED) program. The funding will be used to promote economic development in the Mississippi River Hills Region and the Ozark Heritage Region. Over a three year period, funding will be utilized to expand the current part-time Executive Director position in the Mississippi River Hills Region to full-time, as well as establishing a part-time youth entrepreneurship coordinator and equipment in this rural area. Additionally, over three years this funding will allow their Ozark Heritage Region to expand the entrepreneurship education and business counseling.

Requesting Member: JO ANN EMERSON

Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: SBA—Salaries and Expenses

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Downtown West Plains, Inc., West Plains, MO

Address of Requesting Entity: 401 Jefferson Ave., West Plains, MO 65775

Description of Request: \$500,000 is provided for Downtown West Plains, Inc., a 501(c)(3) corporation, to complete the exterior and interior renovation of a 100-year-old building which will house a Small Business Incubator. These funds will be matched with \$1,144,000 in local, state, and other federal funds. The Ozarks Small Business Incubator, when completed, will provide personalized assistance to small business entrepreneurs by supporting their efforts with business related education, financial guidance, business plan development, mentoring, and access to tangible resources such as building space, shipping dock, and shared office equipment.

Requesting Member: JO ANN EMERSON

Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: SBA—Salaries and Expenses

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Girl Scouts of the USA, New York, NY

Address of Requesting Entity: 420 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10018

Description of Request: \$305,875 is provided to the Girl Scouts of the USA for a national program to improve financial literacy. Federal funds would help launch the first phase of the Improving Girls' Financial Literacy project—a comprehensive, effective and universal financial literacy curriculum for delivery to 2.6 million Girl Scouts of all ages, and corresponding materials for their 900,000 adult volunteers. Funds would support planning; research to ensure that the program is age-appropriate, effective and evidence based; development and creation of materials for the six

levels of Girl Scouting; corresponding facilitator guides to help the volunteers and other activities to ensure that this program is successful.

# THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS HAS NO RESET BUTTON

## HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 10, 2009

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights exactly 61 years ago. This document was born on the ashes of a global war which saw the murder of over six million Jewish people during the Holocaust and the deaths of over 60 million people around the world.

Just when it seemed that humanity was irrevocably lost in the global devastation of this conflict, some of the greatest leaders of their time, such as Eleanor Roosevelt, came together at the United Nations to enshrine a common human bond of individual dreams and aspirations protected by defined rights in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. While formally a resolution, not a treaty, its provisions are part of every legally binding international instrument which sets out to protect human rights.

Today, 61 years after its adoption, the catalog of defined rights has withstood the test of time, but the full implementation of those rights is as elusive as ever. The language and the context in which we discuss these rights today may have changed, but the urgency and importance to protect them globally has not. Terms such as internet freedom, global war on terror, environmental devastation, water-boarding, Guantanamo, corporate social responsibility, food security, women's rights and the Responsibility to Protect are just a few of those modern terms which put in sharp focus the relevance of those rights set forth in this document 61 years ago.

During that period, the United States was a leader among nations in defining and defending those rights and spearheaded international consensus and agreements. More recently, however, we seem to have either forgotten the hard-won lessons of that period or at least have misapplied them.

Instead of holding on tighter to our beliefs and commitments after the 9/11 attacks, we were willing to consider these sacred values impediments to our national sovereignty and infringements on our right to defend our country. Instead of heeding the admonition of one of the greatest American Presidents—another Roosevelt—who led this nation through the Great Depression and defeated the most evil regime in human history, that “the only thing we have to fear is fear itself,” we abandoned our human rights commitments at home. Faced with an unknown and secretive enemy, fear drove us to suspend important legal protections, to re-define the meaning of torture, to engage in extraordinary renditions of individuals utilizing poor human rights records of other countries, and we created with Abu Ghraib and Guantanamo monuments to that failed policy that still serve as recruiting tools for extremists all over the world. All the while

we harshly criticized friends and foes alike if they disagreed with us, and set on an international course of democracy promotion, which was of the “either you are with us, or you are against us” nature.

To regain our international standing and reputation, and in recognition of the fact that we can only defeat terrorism with the support of the relevant local populations, we have recently undertaken significant diplomatic efforts to repair our international relationships. We have announced the closure of Guantanamo, and have ruled out enhanced interrogation techniques, have passed hate crimes legislation at home and have joined the Human Rights Council. While important parts of these objectives have yet to be achieved, the American public and the international community have rightfully applauded these important and difficult initiatives.

But while we have made domestic human rights gains, we now stand to lose our human rights bearings abroad. With ambiguous statements and actions the United States has sent signals to repressive regimes that human rights may no longer feature prominently in our foreign relations and that there is the possibility of a “fresh start,” which can be triggered by a magical “reset button.” While I strongly support the direct engagement of repressive regimes around the globe, I am equally convinced that past human rights records cannot be “reset,” or glossed over. The Universal Declaration does not provide for a “reset button” for gross human rights violations, nor do any of the international human rights treaties. Repressive regimes will only seriously engage the United States and the international community on important human rights issues if we take a principled stand, both in public and in private, which is based on accountability. We owe justice to human rights victims, be that in Sudan, Burma, China, North Korea, Russia or anywhere else in the world.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

## HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 10, 2009

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, on December 9, 2009, I was unavoidably detained and was unable to record my vote for rollcall No. 945 and rollcall No. 946. Had I been present I would have voted:

Rollcall No. 945: “yes”—Providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4173) to provide for financial regulatory reform, to protect consumers and investors, to enhance Federal understanding of insurance issues, to regulate the over-the-counter derivatives, markets, and for other purposes

Rollcall No. 946: “yes”—To eliminate an unused lighthouse reservation, provide management consistency by bringing the rocks and small islands along the coast of Orange County, California, and meet the original congressional intent of preserving Orange County's rocks and small islands, and for other purposes

## INTRODUCING THE COMMON SENSE TAX RELIEF ACT OF 2009

## HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 10, 2009

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to offer legislation to address the needs of Americans across the country who have been unnecessarily burdened by taxes, entitled “The Common Sense Tax Relief Act of 2009.”

As you all are well aware, Americans are extremely concerned with the current state of the economy and they are looking to their government to foster an economic environment that promotes growth.

At a time when Congress is considering health care and energy bills that will significantly raise taxes on all Americans, we must be cognizant of the fact that overall tax bills keep rising.

Over the past year, unprecedented spending on government programs through the so-called “stimulus bill” and the bloated Omnibus Appropriations Act of 2009 has produced, at best, modest signs of recovery.

Americans have felt a great deal of uncertainty as their jobs remain in jeopardy and they are unsure as to what additional financial burden will be levied upon them by the federal government.

I represent a state that currently has the highest tax burden in the nation, and to add insult to injury, New Jersey receives the least amount of federal dollars back from Washington per taxpayer.

Every weekend that I am back in my district, I hear from constituents who have had enough with being taxed by a government that has made no effort to follow these constituents lead in getting their financial houses in order.

For this reason, I have offered the Common Sense Tax Relief Act of 2009. This legislation seeks to make permanent several widely supported tax credits that will directly benefit families and small businesses seeking relief, clarity and certainly in their financial planning.

To assist families, this bill will make permanent the child tax credit and the marriage penalty relief tax credit. To assist in the advancement of education, this bill will make permanent the teacher tax deduction, and the tuition deduction. And to assist small business and families seeking to plan their financial futures, the bill makes permanent the current capital gains and dividends tax rates and eliminates the “death tax.”

Madam Speaker, I urge the immediate consideration of this important legislation that will help propel our economy forward and provide significant relief to all of our constituents.

## EARMARK DECLARATION

## HON. GREGG HARPER

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 10, 2009

Mr. HARPER. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 3288—Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2010.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS AND  
RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

Requesting Member: Congressman GREGG  
HARPER  
Bill Number: H.R. 3288  
Project Name: Monticello Readiness Center  
Project Amount: \$14,350,000  
Agency: Army National Guard  
Account: MILCON  
Recipient and Address: 74 Old Highway 27,  
Monticello, MS 39654

Description of Request: The Headquarters and Headquarters Company of the 106th Brigade Support Battalion is located in a completely inadequate facility in Monticello, MS. This facility can no longer adequately accommodate a National Guard unit due to its lack of space and the outdated utilities. The existing facility is 55 years old and has been determined to be structurally unsound and infeasible for rehabilitation. Overall, the numerous current deficiencies affect the training of this unit in an adverse manner, in that essential mobilization training cannot be accomplished in a satisfactory manner. FY10 Funds will be used to replace the armory.

TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT  
AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

Requesting Member: Congressman GREGG  
HARPER  
Bill Number: H.R. 3288  
Project Name: Jackson-Evers International Airport airfield improvements  
Project Amount: \$2,375,000  
Agency: Federal Aviation Administration  
Account: Airport Improvement Program  
Recipient and Address: Jackson-Evers International Airport, 100 International Drive, Jackson, MS 39298

Description of Request: Jackson-Evers International Airport is in need of essential airfield infrastructure improvements that involve rehabilitation and replacement of security systems and airfield erosion and drainage systems.

Requesting Member: Congressman GREGG  
HARPER  
Bill Number: H.R. 3288  
Project Name: East Metropolitan Corridor, MS

Project Amount: \$2,750,000  
Agency: Federal Highway Administration  
Account: Surface Transportation Priorities  
Recipient and Address: City of Flowood,  
P.O. Box 320069, Flowood, MS 39232

Description of Request: Funds will be used to finish pre-construction activities. The East Metropolitan Corridor is 5 miles in length and links Interstate 20, at the Crossgates Interchange in Brandon, MS with Lakeland Drive at its intersection with Old Fannin Road in Flowood, MS.

Requesting Member: Congressman GREGG  
HARPER

Bill Number: H.R. 3288  
Project Name: Lake Harbour Drive, MS  
Project Amount: \$1,500,000  
Agency: Federal Highway Administration  
Account: Surface Transportation Priorities  
Recipient and Address: City of Ridgeland,  
P.O. Box 217, Ridgeland, MS 39158

Description of Request: Construction of the Lake Harbour Drive extension will provide a major east-west corridor through the City of Ridgeland that will traverse the significant physical barriers that now bisect the City and impede safe and efficient access, emergency service, economic development and commercial activity.

Requesting Member: Congressman GREGG  
HARPER

Bill Number: H.R. 3288  
Project Name: MSU for community planning and development  
Project Amount: \$500,000  
Agency: Housing and Urban Development  
Account: Neighborhood Initiatives  
Recipient and Address: Mississippi State University, P.O. Box 6301, Mississippi State, MS 39762

Description of Request: FY 10 funds will continue an aggressive program of basic infrastructure improvements on the Mississippi State University main campus in Starkville, Mississippi.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE AND RELATED AGENCIES,  
2010

Requesting Member: Congressman GREGG  
HARPER

Bill Number: H.R. 3288  
Project Name: Expansion of the Research, Technology and Economic Development Park  
Project Amount: \$6,000,000  
Agency: Department of Commerce  
Account: National Institute of Standards and Technology

Recipient and Address: Mississippi State University, P.O. Box 6363, Mississippi State, MS 39762

Description of Request: Mississippi State University proposes construction of Phase II of the Research,

Technology and Economic Development Park. This will provide high quality infrastructure together with office and laboratory space for small high technology companies to locate in close proximity to Mississippi State University.

Requesting Member: Congressman GREGG  
HARPER

Bill Number: H.R. 3288  
Project Name: NOAA Northern Gulf Institute  
Project Amount: \$4,500,000  
Agency: Department of Commerce  
Account: NOAA-ORF  
Recipient and Address: Mississippi State University, P.O. Box 9627, Mississippi State, MS 39762

Description of Request: The NGI defines the Northern Gulf of Mexico region as the upland and watershed, coastal zone, and coastal ocean areas from the Sabine River, LA in the west to the Suwannee River, FL in the east. The Northern Gulf is a rich and interdependent natural environment of great complexity and is important to the region and the nation. The riverine-dominated Northern Gulf ecosystems are under pressure from increasing population and coastal development, impacts from severe storms and climate variability, inland watershed and coastal wetlands degradation, and many other factors. NGI has chosen an approach to Northern Gulf Region issues, problems and opportunities that is closely aligned with NOAA's strategic and research priorities and its user-community. This approach is science driven, regionally focused, and coordinated with other Gulf of Mexico Basin activities, and seeks whenever appropriate to promote the application of its results to support decision makers and policy development.

Requesting Member: Congressman GREGG  
HARPER

Bill Number: H.R. 3288  
Project Name: MSU Cyber Crime Initiative and National Consortium for Digital Forensics Training

Project Amount: \$1,500,000  
Agency: Department of Justice  
Account: OJP-Byrne

Recipient and Address: Mississippi State University, P.O. Box 9637, Mississippi State, MS 39762

Description of Request: The National Forensics Training Center (FTC) provides needed no cost digital forensics investigation training to state and local law enforcement officials nation-wide. Law enforcement students are provided lodging, meals, and training at no cost. The FTC maintains a highly trained instructor staff, two classrooms, and a mobile lab for training purposes. A Full suite of digital forensics short course classes are offered which expose law enforcement and judicial officials to technical techniques in digital investigations and current search and seizure laws applicable to electronic evidence. The project also supports the State of Mississippi Cyber Crime Fusion Center managed by the State Attorney General, a one of a kind Federal/State/Local cooperative effort, addressing cyber crime. Other partners in this effort have included Jackson State University and the University of Mississippi's National Center for Justice and Rule of Law. Since the FTC began operation in late 2005, more than 2100 law enforcement students have participated in its training from 22 states. The demand for this training is increasing every year.

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

Requesting Member: Congressman GREGG  
HARPER

Bill Number: H.R. 3288  
Project Name: Mississippi State University, Mississippi State, MS, for the development of an early childhood teacher education delivery system

Project Amount: \$750,000  
Agency: Department of Education  
Account: Elementary and Secondary Education

Recipient and Address: Mississippi State University, Early Childhood Institute, P.O. Box 6013, Mississippi State, MS 39762

Description of Request: Funding would be used to create and pilot a new early childhood teacher delivery system to improve the quality of instruction and prevent attrition of teachers in early care and education centers.

Requesting Member: Congressman GREGG  
HARPER

Bill Number: H.R. 3288  
Project Name: Mississippi Museum of Natural Science Foundation, Jackson, MS for educational outreach programs  
Project Amount: \$220,000  
Agency: Institute of Museum and Library Services

Account: Museums and Libraries  
Recipient and Address: Mississippi Museum of Natural Science Foundation, 2148 Riverside Drive, Jackson, MS 39202

Description of Request: Funding would be used for the acquisition of education outreach vans and equipment so the museum's science literacy programs can reach approximately 120,000 students throughout the state; and for biological database services to assist land managers and economic developers to improve their efficiency and effectiveness by providing tools to streamline planning and permitting processes.



INTRODUCTION OF SMALL  
BREWERS' EXCISE TAX BILL**HON. RICHARD E. NEAL**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 10, 2009*

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation to promote American jobs. Over 30 years ago, Congress worried that a few industry giants would dominate the domestic beer industry, squeezing out local and regional brewers. In response, Congress reduced the tax rate on beer produced by small brewers. That differential has led to the creation of thousands of craft brewers, who are small business owners and employers in our communities. However, the consolidation at the top of the market has continued.

Today, the two top players in the beer market, which are global companies, control more than 90% of American beer production. Clearly, we need to do more to foster and promote growth for these small, independent American brewers. That is why I am filing legislation today, along with my Committee colleague and friend from Texas, Mr. BRADY, to provide a more graduated rate of excise tax on beer produced domestically by small brewers. Our bill provides two benefits to small brewers. First, for those who produce less than 60,000 barrels per year, the current excise tax rate is cut in half to \$3.50 per barrel. Second, for those who produce more than 60,000 but less than 6 million barrels, still well short of the industry giants, they will enjoy the same tax break on the first 60,000 barrels but will pay a tax rate of \$16 per barrel rather than the current \$18 per barrel on the amount over 60,000 and less than 2 million. Any barrel over that threshold will continue to be taxed at the current \$18 rate.

This legislation has the support of the Brewers Association, representing more than 1,500 small and independent brewers in America, including 85 regional breweries that produce between 15,000 and 2 million barrels per year, 470 microbreweries that produce less than 15,000 barrels per year, and 961 brewpubs that sell 25% or more of their beer on site. These small brewers employ more than 100,000 workers, generating more than \$3 billion in wages. Their dedication to craft brewing has led to a renaissance in flavorful beer here in America and more respect for American brewers abroad. However, they still lack the economies of scale in marketing, advertising, production, promotion and distribution that the giants of the industry enjoy.

As the landscape of the beer market continues to change, we should revisit these tax provisions to provide for further growth of these smaller brewers. We should continue the effort we started more than 30 years ago to nurture a diverse and competitive market and promote small domestic producers to keep this American industry thriving. These are good jobs in our local communities that protect American craftsmanship. I urge our colleagues to join us in this effort.

## EARMARK DECLARATION

**HON. CONNIE MACK**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 10, 2009*

Mr. MACK. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 3288—Consolidated Appropriations Act, FY 2010.

Project Name: Interstate 75/Collier Boulevard/SR 84 Interchange Improvements

Requesting Member: Congressman CONNIE MACK

Bill Number: H.R. 3288—Consolidated Appropriations Act, FY 2010

Account: Federal Highway Administration

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Florida Department of Transportation

Address of Requesting Entity: 605 Suwannee Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Description of Request/Justification of Federal Funding: \$800,000: The current interchange serves the east Naples area, Golden Gate City, and Marco Island, and is the closest interchange from the east to the City of Naples. The funding will be utilized for capacity improvements at the Interstate 75/Collier Boulevard/SR 84 Interchange and will improve traffic flow in the region.

Project Name: FGCU Impact of Freshwater Flow into Coastal Waters—FGCU Coastal Watershed Institute

Requesting Member: Congressman CONNIE MACK

Bill Number: H.R. 3288—Consolidated Appropriations Act, FY 2010

Account: Higher Education (includes FIPSE)

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Florida Gulf Coast University

Address of Requesting Entity: 10501 FGCU Blvd., South, Fort Myers, FL 33965

Description of Request/Justification of Federal Funding: \$350,000: Florida's coast is a principal economic driver, attracting millions of tourists and thousands of residents to the coastal communities of Southwest Florida. Proper management of the freshwater that the coastal environment receives is critical to preventing toxic algal blooms and negative impacts on recreational and commercial fisheries. FGCU is requesting federal funding for their Coastal Watershed Institute to address the impacts associated with changes in the freshwater flows into the area. This project is geared to students learning about future management of our fragile ecosystems.

Project Name: Emergency Services Technology, Collier County, Florida

Requesting Member: Congressman CONNIE MACK

Bill Number: H.R. 3288—Consolidated Appropriations Act, FY 2010

Account: DOJ/COPS

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Collier County, FL

Address of Requesting Entity: 3301 East Tamiami Trail, Naples, Florida 34112

Description of Request/Justification of Federal Funding: \$800,000 will be utilized for the acquisition of public safety technology equipment for the Collier County Emergency Services Center. The funding is important because it will help to better equip Collier County's emergency service providers to respond to

events that could endanger the safety and citizens of Collier County, Florida.

Project Name: FGCU Law Enforcement and Public Safety

Requesting Member: Congressman CONNIE MACK

Bill Number: H.R. 3288—Consolidated Appropriations Act, FY 2010

Account: DOJ/OJP-Byrne Discretionary Grants

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Florida Gulf Coast University

Address of Requesting Entity: 10501 FGCU Blvd, South, Fort Myers, Florida 33965

Description of Request/Justification of Federal Funding: \$200,000 will be utilized for the development of tools for training and processing crime scenes for use by law enforcement and public safety officials. This work will be done at the Florida Gulf Coast University in its Law Enforcement and Public Safety Department.

HONORING THE SERVICE AND SACRIFICE OF MARTIN COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA SHERIFF'S DEPUTY CHARLES DOUGLAS BROWN, JR.

**HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 10, 2009*

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, it is with deep sadness that I report that a law officer was killed in the line of duty in my Congressional District on Tuesday, December 8, 2009. Thirty-eight-year-old Martin County Sheriff's Deputy Charles "Charlie" Douglas Brown, Jr. was killed in an exchange of gunfire while on duty.

Funeral services will be held on Saturday, December 12, 2009 as the entire community mourns his untimely death. He is survived by his wife, Cindy, and their two daughters, Morgan and Carlie. He was a member of Maple Grove Christian Church.

Sheriff's Deputy Brown was a U.S. Marine veteran having served in Desert Storm. He served as a member of the U.S. Marines Honor Guard and was recognized with the Elegance Medal. He also assisted with the Katrina disaster in New Orleans, Louisiana and the Tsunami Disaster in Thailand. He was a K9 officer serving with his faithful dog H2.

He had a great love of fishing and hunting, and he was well liked by his fellow officers and throughout the community.

As a nation, we have lost more than 20,000 officers in the line of duty over the course of our history. Mr. Brown was the 115th law officer killed in the line duty this year, and the seventh officer killed in the line of duty in North Carolina.

Despite the constant threats of harm and danger, day after day, and year after year, dedicated professionals, like Mr. Brown, make the sacrifices for their communities, without asking for thanks or praise.

Sheriff's Deputy Brown unwaveringly upheld the values that make this country great—duty honor, sacrifice. Those values and their sacrifice are a somber reminder that the freedoms that we share do not come without a cost.

He and his fellow officers who will carry on this essential work deserve our strong support

and our thankful recognition. Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing Mr. Brown's extraordinary service and sacrifice.

CELEBRATING THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FRIENDS OF YALE-NEW HAVEN CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

**HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 10, 2009*

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the wonderful work done by the Friends of Yale-New Haven Children's Hospital, who are celebrating their 20th anniversary this month.

In 1989, a dear friend of mine, the late Dr. Joseph Warshaw, brought together a diverse group of community volunteers in and around Yale-New Haven Children's Hospital to address issues related to children's health, safety, and well-being. In the two decades since, these dedicated volunteers have continued their important work on behalf of the kids and families of Connecticut, contributing thousands of hours of volunteer time and having raised

over \$1 million for Yale-New Haven Children's Hospital and the Department of Pediatrics at the Yale School of Medicine.

Through telethons, fundraisers, sports tournaments and other community outreach events, the Friends have worked to raise awareness of and financial support for the important pediatric work done by Yale-New Haven. In addition, they have gone to great lengths to support Yale-New Haven's Emergency Department, the only Level 1 Trauma Center for children in Connecticut, and have fashioned a Pediatric Allocation Committee to distribute funds to worthy projects in the hospital.

The Friends have also helped to fund several very worthwhile programs for the broader community, including We're Special Too!, designed for the siblings of children with chronic illness, and Reach Out & Read (ROR), a literacy program which distributes free books to the children who seek treatment at Yale-New Haven. And for many years I have joined the Friends on Christmas morning, as they have distributed gifts to the kids at Yale-New Haven and helped to ensure that even Connecticut's sick and injured children do not miss out on the joys of the day.

For twenty years, in ways both great and small, the Friends have worked to brighten the lives of children and families in New Haven.

On this anniversary, I applaud their efforts and their decades of service, and I look forward to celebrating more anniversaries with them in the years to come.

IN HONOR OF JAMES P. MERCREADY

**HON. JOHN H. ADLER**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 10, 2009*

Mr. ADLER of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to have this opportunity to express my gratitude to Mr. James Mercready for his dedicated and tireless service with the East Dover Fire Company in Toms River, NJ.

Mr. Mercready has selflessly and bravely served the people of Toms River throughout his career and is retiring in January after a lifetime of service. After serving as president of the company for the past six years, he has made important improvements to the Fire Company and the safety of the town and its people.

I would like to thank Mr. Mercready for his exemplary service. Thank you for all you have done and I wish you a Happy Retirement.